

Hafa Adai!

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Bicameral conference to pass budget

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives and Senate aim to convene in a bicameral conference within the week hoping to reach an agreement to finally pass the CNMI budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

The House of Representatives, in an emergency session last Saturday at the House chamber of the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial build-

ing, voted 18-2 to reject the Senate version of House Bill 19-196 or the CNMI Budget Act.

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Demapan: Locals should avail employment opportunities

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) is encouraging the local workforce to take advantage and avail of the employment opportunities that can be seen with the current economic situation of the



Demapan

CNMI, particularly on Saipan.

Several establishments have opened the past few months with Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s casino resort and two more hotel projects now under construction.

Demapan said the Department

of Labor has programs like the Workforce Investment Agency to help local citizens find jobs. "We talked about training and employment for our citizens. They must also avail of the services of the Department of Labor."

"So that [Labor] can assist them, make the assurance that they be placed on the employment market."

See DEMAPAN on Page 4

AFTER YEAR'S ABSENCE DUE TO SOUDELOR

Chief Aghurubw Day celebrated again on Managaha

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MANAGAHA ISLAND—The 46th Annual Chief Aghurubw Day was again held in Managaha last Saturday, which is also one of the highlights of the Cultural Heritage Month hosted by the Carolinian Affairs Office.

Last year, the celebration marking the first Carolinian settlement on Saipan was cancelled because of Typhoon Soudelor.

Member of the Refaluwasch advisory council for the Carolinian Affairs Office and Cultural Heritage Month committee chair Gus Kaipat shared that the celebration of Chief Aghurubw Day is essential to the Carolinian culture and tradition.

"Today is Aghurubw Day, in which every year we come out to Managaha and celebrate our chief, Chief Aghurubw who was buried here and to try and continue getting our culture and tradition going," he said. "It's important because it is one of the ways to preserve our identity. One of the reasons why we are able to continue

See MANAGAHA on Page 4



ERWIN ENCINARES

Members of the Chief Aghurubw Foundation pose for a picture with Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), acting governor Victor Hocog, Sen. Sixto Igisomar, and Lady Diann Tudela Torres. Inset, reenactment of Carolinians arriving from a seafaring journey on a Carolinian proa while women dance on the shore as a welcoming ritual to celebrate their return during the 46th Annual Chief Aghurubw Day celebration on Managaha Island last Saturday.

INSIDE



LOCAL

Crime Stoppers coordinator Jason Tarkong talked about stopping crimes and the added rewards in assisting police.

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NATION

An explosion in a crowded Manhattan neighborhood on Saturday night left 29 people injured, and authorities said a second nearby site was also being investigated.

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LIFE & STYLE

Authorities say rapper Coolio has been arrested after a loaded firearm was found in a carry-on bag during security screening at Los Angeles International Airport.

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Local

IN COUPLE'S SUIT VS NMHC, CONTRACTOR OVER INJURIES

Naraja: Couple not liable for breach of promise not to sue

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has ruled that a couple who sued over the husband's injuries when his motorized wheelchair suddenly tipped backwards on a defective ramp at their house cannot be held liable for allegedly breaching their promise not to sue the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

NMHC granted in 2009 the application of couple James Camacho Bowie and Linda Manahane Bowie for a home rehabilitation grant under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, a program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Naraja concluded that a provision of the grant agreement does not contain the Bowie

couple's promise not to sue NMHC because a promise "to hold harmless" is either the couple's promise to indemnify NMHC for its losses or a reciprocal promise to not indemnify NMHC for the couple's losses.

Naraja also concluded that NMHC may enforce a provision of the construction contract



Naraja

as an intended third-party beneficiary.

Naraja discussed the issue of the couple's promise not to sue in an order on Thursday that granted summary judgment in favor of the Bowies on NMHC's

breach of contract counterclaim against them as to the provision of the grant agree-

ment and as to the provision of the construction contract.

The judge said the subject provision of the construction contract only contains a limited release of liability in favor of NMHC for causes of action that are either not resulting from an intentional or reckless act by NMHC, or not resulting from an act of negligent or reckless conduct by NMHC.

The subject provision of the construction contract that the Bowies entered with contractor, Apex Construction, states that "contractor and [plaintiffs] hereby indemnify and shall hold harmless NMHC from any liability, claims, damages, injuries, or expenses arising out of any action of NMHC as may be performed under this contract."

The construction contract's provision also states that NMHC "shall not be liable in any way whatsoever, to any party, owner, or contractor for NMHC's actions under this contract."

Naraja concluded that neither the provision of the grant agreement nor the provision of the construction contract contain the couple's promise not to sue NMHC.

With respect to the couple's request for summary judgment on all remaining NMHC counterclaims, the judge said before issuing a ruling, the parties, including Apex Construction, are ordered to appear for a status conference to discuss any remaining issues on Sept. 28, 2016.

The Bowies filed their first amended complaint in 2013. They brought up five causes of action claiming damages, court costs, attorney's fees, and repairing the ramp to a safe and lawful condition.

The Bowies directed their negligence and violation of Building Safety Code claims against all defendants.

They sued Apex Construction for breach of contract and violation of the Consumer Protection Act. They sued NMHC for breach of contract. NMHC filed its counterclaim against the couple for breach of contract.

NMHC then asked the court to issue a summary judgment in their favor on the argument the Bowies breached their promise not to sue.

Attorney Joseph E. Horey is counsel for the Bowies. Attorney Mark A. Scoggins is counsel for NMHC. Attorney Joaquin Torres is counsel for Apex Construction Inc.

In December 2014, then-associate judge David A. Wiseman dismissed the Bowie couple's claims against the CNMI government.

Wiseman granted the government's motion to dismiss the

couple's claims for negligence and violation of the Commonwealth Building Safety Code.

Wiseman, however, denied NMHC's motion to dismiss the couple's claims for negligence and violation of the Commonwealth Building Safety Code against the agency.

Wiseman also denied NMHC's motion for summary judgment as to the couple's claims for negligence, breach of contract, and violation of the CNMI Building Safety Code.

Last March, the court granted summary judgment in NMHC's favor as to all of plaintiffs' causes of action—negligence, breach of contract, and public nuisance.

In a ruling issued on that same day, the court granted summary judgment in favor of NMHC's breach of contract counterclaim.

The court concluded that the Bowies had breached the provision of the grant agreement or specifically the couple's promise to hold NMHC harmless from any damages resulting from Mr. Bowie's use of the constructed ramp.

The court's second conclusion is that NMHC could not enforce the provision of the construction contract as an intended third-party beneficiary.

In his order on Thursday, Naraja said such both legal conclusions were the result of the respective parties' failure to address these issues in their cross-motions for summary judgment.

Among other items, the Bowies moved to reconsider the ruling on NMHC's breach of contract counterclaim. Naraja granted the motion to reconsider and the parties then submitted their respective briefs.

According to court records, James and Linda Bowie are husband and wife. Mr. Bowie is confined to a motorized wheelchair and requires a ramp for access to their house.

In order to perform construction work on their home and improve the wheelchair ramp, the Bowies first applied for a grant from NMHC.

Having received grant approval from NMHC, the Bowies hired Apex Construction Inc. to perform the necessary construction work on their home.

Apex Construction, instead of reducing the slope of the ramp, increased it. The resulting ramp failed to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

As a result, Mr. Bowie suffered injuries when his wheelchair suddenly tipped backwards while using the defective ramp. The Bowies complain that NMHC and CNMI approved the building plans despite knowing that the wheelchair access ramp was too steep.

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2016 BUSINESS AND FINANCE CONFERENCE

Small businesses front and center on 2nd day of confab

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The second day panel discussions of the first-ever 2016 Business and Finance Conference of the CNMI at Saipan World Resort last Friday included topics that talked about small businesses and how they are to thrive in the upswing CNMI economy.

Owner and manager of Kalayaan Inc. Eleanor Alinas opened with small businesses being the heart and soul of the economy.

"Small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy and the cornerstone of the community, as quoted by President Barack Obama. We are out there really employing the people in the community," said Alinas.

Focused on the available resources of the CNMI, Alinas assures local businessmen that securing a loan from the bank is beneficial to the business in the long run.

"I talked about many of the available resources in the CNMI. I am a recipient of one such resource, such as the SSBCI (State Small Business Credit initiative) funding that they have been talking about since yesterday (Thursday)," said Alinas. "It gives me a chance to expand and diversify my business, and that is what I wanted to share to all the business owners. The programs that [the government] has in place to support the small businesses are there, and that they actually work."

Alinas said that small businesses need to concentrate on the financials in order to secure a loan from the bank easily.

"As small business owners we have to work toward getting to the point where banks will trust us," said Alinas. "The first thing that small business owners need to do is strengthen their financial position here in the CNMI. We're talking about making sure that they allot something for savings. Insurance is very important, and obviously you have to know where the business is headed," shared Alinas.

She also said that with a goal in mind, banks are more confident with entrusting a loan for wise business decisions.

"If you are able to share your goals with your banker, if you understand exactly what you are asking for, your banker will see that. You should also be able to prove that financially, because in the end, it's all about finances. Being able to manage your financials is a very helpful way for bankers to give you a loan."

Audience members asked the panel on issues such as the upcoming minimum wage hike. Alinas shared with *Saipan Tribune* that she thinks it is too soon.

"Honestly, I think that this is a move that has not really been thought of well, where the smaller businesses have not really been taken into consideration. We know that the intention is good and I really applaud the government for taking the initial steps toward that, but it's too much too soon," she said.

Alinas also touched on the point that business goals are not only profit, but also sustainment. "As a business, your goal is to be there as long as possible. We have a lot

of families that are reliant on our business, so longevity is a big part of our goals."

Carmen Safeway Enterprises president Frances Borja raised a few points that benefit small businesses.

"Stricter enforcement of tax laws. We are seeing a lot of business activities on Saipan and there are under reporting or misrepresenting their revenues, along with not paying the proper taxes to the businesses that they're doing," shared Borja. "We have seen a proliferation of a lot of apartment buildings converted to bed-and-breakfast guest houses and short-term rentals," she said. Borja explained that while the nature of business changed, the taxes being paid are different.

Borja's second point is to take advantage of online convenience for an increase on efficiency. Borja wishes that the government starts to invest in online forms. "[Suggests that] the government invest in e-commerce and to have Internet access where we can go online and make applications for payments such as taxes and driver's licenses, and even permits," she said. "So that we do not have to stand in long lines that affects both the productivity of the government and the private sector workers. It works both ways to cut

down on the time that we have to stand in line," said Borja.

Stellar Marianas president Laila Boyer said that the economy in the CNMI is definitely improving and the small businesses on island are definitely feeling it.

"The climate of the economy is definitely changing for the better here. We have all kind of weathered the storm and coming out of it, it is picking up. We have seen the trickling effect happening to all of the businesses," said Boyer.

She also mentioned that the

whole point of the panel discussion was to encourage people to become entrepreneurs.

"One of the emphasis that I really like about today's panel is trying to promote the culture of entrepreneurship, getting more and more people getting into businesses."

Boyer wishes to see Saipan becoming one of the main business districts in the Pacific.

"We have a lot of talent and creativity. Coming from this part of the world we are kind of forced to be creative about a lot of things that we do, so it would be a natural fit for us to be an incubator for a lot of businesses to start up," said Boyer.

Boyer acknowledges that

prosperity always comes with a price, sometimes one that is too valuable to lose.

"Economic development definitely brings change, and one of them is also the gradual loss of tradition and culture. As a destination, we could turn that around and emphasize that it continues as part of the CNMI experience and encourage more businesses to incorporate that into their business culture," said Boyer.

The first ever 2016 BCF CNMI was hosted by a partnership composed of the Bank of Guam, Commonwealth Development Authority, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

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BUDGET

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The session, which was scheduled at 1:30pm, began at 2:26pm and ended in less than an hour.

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) appointed Vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan)—chair of the powerful House Ways and Means committee—and minority member Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan) in the House panel for the bicameral conference.

All 20 members of the House were present with Reps. Edwin P. Aldan (Ind-Tinian) and Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) voting in the negative on the amendments made by the Senate that was transmitted to the office of the House Speaker late Friday afternoon.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is expected to return to the CNMI today after successive trips to Alaska, to meet with Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski, and Washington, D.C. to testify in an oversight hearing that aims to review the economic impact of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa program, which is set to end in 2019.

Torres, in a statement, said he is aware of the issue in the Legislature and their disagreement when it comes to the passing of the Fiscal Year 2017 budget despite on an official trip.

“As it stands, both houses are expected to create a conference committee to address those disagreements. We will respect the legislative process as deliberations move forward and look forward to receiving a budget bill that continues to move the

Commonwealth forward prior to the end of this fiscal year.”

Over \$3 million

House Speaker Demapan, after Saturday’s less than one-hour emergency session, said the Senate made a significant change when it added another \$3 million on the proposed budget for FY 2017. “The amount of changes is very significant, roughly over \$3 million. Because of that number the House still needs to review the Senate’s version.”

“There are [also] six other significant changes in the budget and not only that there are also some legal concerns that needs to be verified and clarified by the House legal counsel. That’s exactly why I wanted to have this emergency session so we may expedite on things,” added Demapan.

He said that he is confident with Sablan’s experience on the House panel for the bicameral conference meeting. “I have faith on our chair [Sablan] since he is knowledgeable on this process. I believe he will call a meeting with our counterparts in the Senate, as early as Monday. I’m sure our chair will send out a notice to the Senate.”

Demapan added that they need to pass the budget and have it transmitted to Torres for his signature before Sept. 30 with Oct. 1 being the start of the new FY. “Hopefully they could meet as soon as possible because time is of the essence. We don’t have any room to continue the delay in the passing of this budget. We need to do this before Sept. 30.”

A government shutdown ensues if a budget is not passed after the deadline.

Sablan said the Senate just re-allocated the close to

\$3.2-million increase with \$1.6 million earmarked for deficit reduction. He added that he has already instructed his staff to coordinate with the office of Senate President Francisco M. Borja (Ind-Tinian) so they could also appoint their members for the conference meeting.

“Since we rejected it, they need to appoint their panel. But they could not afford to appoint the members until they are notified. With the rejection, I asked our staff to coordinate with the Senate President’s office on how quickly can they act in appointing their members,” said Sablan.

“How quickly we can issue the joint notice to convene the bicameral conference? The sooner the better, I asked for [today] but I think it would be [tomorrow] morning since I also asked them to look on the possibility of convening on an emergency basis so we would not lose any day.”

Sablan said he is hoping a positive result would come out within the week. “If we can come back on Monday and start working on this, hopefully we can try to solve something within a couple of days. I know it is wishful thinking, the last time we went to conference we basically resolved it in a day and came back the following day with an agreed version. This one, we just want to resolve some legal issues in regards to this version.”

“I’m just concerned with the size of the Senate’s action. The more it is oftentimes, it is harder to resolve which means more time [is needed].”

Unforeseen delays

Sablan, however, said that unforeseen circumstances caused

some delays. “Knowing that we only have two weeks, this should have gone to the governor by now, 30 days prior to the start of the new FY.”

“Since it is a new administration, the notice came a month later than the usual. Then we have all those re-identification of revenues so we have to go back and adjust the concurrent resolution to take into consideration the new revenues. That again got the process back and forth.”

“There’s also the 902 talks in DC and Hawaii, and others, members were off-island and we have to reschedule. We also have the settlement agreement issue where the secretary of Finance could not meet the schedule to appear in front of the committee so we have to reschedule that again.”

Rota’s needs

Rep. Maratita, one of the House members who voted no in rejecting the Senate’s version, said he supported the bill since almost \$500,000 was added bringing the allocated budget for the CNMI’s southernmost island to roughly \$7.2 million. “We’re trying to address a lot of issues. We have a lot of pressing issues back home. And I tried to everything that I could do to have it addressed at the House.”

He said the House could have just asked the legal counsel on the issues that they have some concerns rather than just rejecting it. “If we need to address whatever issue the legal counsel raises, let’s put it on the floor. But just to reject it and put it to a conference committee, I’m very concerned about that because this is time sensitive.”

“We have less than two weeks to address this issue otherwise we’re going to put

a lot of our employees in another difficult situation. So I will not just sit there and allow this to happen. I want to move forward with this budget but unfortunately it was defeated.”

He added that the Senate’s increase could have been a big help for Rota especially the Medical Referral Program. “The [Medical Referral] program is in dire need of funds and everything else that the Office of the Mayor conveyed. Critical concerns and critical areas, those are the things that we need.”

Maratita said he remains confident that Rota’s economic development would pick up after being stagnant for many years. “We are the farthest, we are isolated. And economic activity has been slow in improvement.”

“We tried, despite what we are facing, we continue to go out there and reach out for investors, businesses to come out to Rota. Hopefully in the near future we could have those activities and I’m optimistic that we will be seeing a lot of changes and business development.”

Substantive changes

Senate Fiscal Affairs committee chair Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), after their session last Friday, that their version only had substantive changes to address some needs. “Primarily on the provisions to ensure that we’re given the level of expenditure that we adopted on the concurrent resolution.”

“The Senate gave its best to distribute amongst the different agencies and municipalities that need for the coming fiscal year. Some, may I add, are extra ordinary, ordinary, or status quo, but nevertheless discussed over and over until we arrived with this

product,” he added.

Hofschneider, who is expected to be part of the Senate panel for the bicameral conference meeting, said they only had less than three weeks to work on the budget after receiving it on Aug. 26.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Saipan), who is the Senate’s Legislative Secretary and Fiscal Affairs committee vice chair, said although they failed to address the concerns and requests made by various departments they still came up with a budget version that would provide funds to areas that are more important.

“For example, CHCC by allocating funding for the recruitment of physicians in specialized areas, the CNMI Medical Referral Program by allocating funding for additional FTEs including overtime pay for employees, increasing the fund of \$100,000.00 for inter-island medical referral patients from Rota for lodging and accommodations.”

They allocated funds for the 30 percent of bonuses for employees of the Tinian and Rota mayor’s offices. They also increased allocation for retroactive payments for Rota government employees who are owed for almost three decades by the central government and housing subsidy for [Tinian and Rota] students who are interested in attending the Northern Marianas College and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

She said that hopefully the Legislature could meet halfway and pass the budget to avoid a government shutdown with nine working days left before FY 2017 begins on Oct. 1. “It is my opinion that the Senate version is a doable or workable budget bill.”

DEMAPAN

From Page 1

We need to point that out so they would know where to go. Finding employment, getting hired, and having the proper training.”

Training the local workforce would lessen the impact of businesses that were affected by the issue on the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker

nonimmigrant visa (CW-1) program, which ends in 2019.

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio “Kilili” C. Sablan (Ind-MP) are pushing for an extension of the program for 10 years and the raising of the cap to 18,000 to augment the expected need for additional workforce.

He added that the government and Legislature should encourage the Northern

Marianas College, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and businesses to offer short training courses especially those in the hospitality and tourism industries—one of the CNMI’s source of revenue.

“I think they should focus and invest more in training the local workforce. So we try to also alleviate the financial situation of the people and address the concerns of the labor issue in the Com-

monwealth.”

“In the meantime, we’re working to see how we can address the shortage of workers or manpower. I strongly urge businesses to focus more in training employees so there’s no disruption of operations with their businesses,” said Demapan.

NMC interim president David Attao, in a presentation to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce members early

this month, showed the top positions held by CW workers as of fiscal year 2013. The CNMI Department of Commerce and DOL are the source of the data.

Maids and housekeeping cleaners are on top with 1,023 followed by general and operations managers with 651, while janitors and cleaners (except maids and housekeeping) are at third with 548, and waiters and

waitresses at 537.

Accountants and auditors (480); retail salespersons (363); security guards (363); cashiers (320); restaurant (296); cement masons and concrete finishers (268); other managers (232); cooks, maintenance, and masseuse (201 each); food prep and stock clerks (163 each); and bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks (162) are the other jobs listed.

MANAGAHA

From Page 1

practicing navigation by looking at the stars and studying the waves is because of us getting together as one children of the seafaring society, the children of the last navigators to continue the tradition.”

Kaipat said that cultural identity is one of the main driving factors for celebrating Chief Aghurubw Day annually. “It’s hard to tell people who you are and where you come

from. This is the best way to do this, to highlight and to be a part of celebration and invite everyone in the world to take part in the celebrations.”

Chief Aghurubw Foundation chair Pete de Leon Guerrero said that the nonprofit corporation is now open to Carolinians who are not of the Ghatoliyool Clan (Chief Aghurubw’s clan) and also to Chamorros who are willing to join. “Recently they started to open up the nonprofit corporation to all the Carolinians and amongst our Chamorro

friends and families that want to join. The mission is not only to enhance the culture of the Chamorro and the Carolinian people, but in some ways to help promote the culture and language of the local indigenous people, Carolinian and Chamorro as well.”

The foundation’s mission is mainly to preserve culture and tradition of the Carolinians and Chamorros, while promoting the usefulness of certain skills. “In recognizing the importance of preserving our culture and tradition, the

mission is to further the education of our young people, not only academically, but also in trades so that they can best prepare themselves for the challenges that they could face in the future,” said Guerrero.

Guerrero shared that the foundation would be cooperating with other nonprofit organizations with the same goals.

“The Chief Aghurubw Foundation would be working closely with other nonprofit organizations that is established amongst the Carolinian

community and other nonprofit organizations with the same purpose and intent.”

Guerrero also talked about the importance of cultural identity and how it can be taken advantage of, specifically in what is considered an island paradise to others. “It is very important to know about yourself, who you are, and your principles. This event symbolizes that and it is something that will be continued on unto the next generation. In addition to that as you know, the culture and tradition of

the island is also something that our visitors would like to see. There are a lot of visitors that are from Japan, Korea, and China. Our culture and tradition is one of the unique things that promotes business to enhance and improve our economy.”

Chief Aghurubw Day is an annual celebration on Managaha, which is significant because it is the burial site of the late chief. A mass is conducted on the island followed by a feast and traditional Carolinian performances.

'OAG is still CEC's legal counsel'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General will continue to serve as legal counsel for the Commonwealth Election Commission, according to CEC acting executive director Julita A. Villagomez.

Villagomez said Attorney General Edward Manibusan informed her recently that the OAG is still CEC's legal counsel and that assistant attorney general Michael Witry is assigned to them.

"As of right now, we don't need to hire a lawyer as our legal counsel," Villagomez said.

Suspected 'ice' trafficker's motion to modify \$100K bail denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has denied a motion to modify the \$100,000 cash bail imposed on John Richard Palacios Deleon Guerrero, an ex-convict who was arrested by members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force for allegedly selling methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

At a bail modification hearing on Friday, Camacho found Joanne Deleon Guerrero not suitable to serve as third-party custodian for the defendant.

Camacho noted that the proposed third party custodian has a prior criminal case and seven traffic cases.

The judge said the proposed third part custodian lacks the ability to properly control and supervise the defendant.

The judge also listed defendant's seven prior criminal cases and eight traffic cases, including a charge of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer.

Camacho said defendant's prior cases charged him with assault with a dangerous weapon, burglary, theft, and possession and trafficking of controlled substance.

Jury trial will be on Jan. 30, 2017. Pre-trial conference will be on Dec. 14, 2016 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government. Attorney Steven Pixley is the court-appointed counsel for Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero, 40, also known as Massi and or Penny, was arrested on charges of trafficking of controlled substance and possession of controlled substance.

Drug Enforcement Task Force member Police Officer Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that last Aug. 16, a "confidential source" informed him that John Massi, who was later identified as Deleon Guerrero, has been selling "ice."

The "confidential source" claimed that he/she had previously managed to buy \$120 worth of "ice" from Deleon Guerrero.

Camacho said during a buy-operation, the "confidential source" managed to purchase .70 gross grams of "ice" worth \$120 from Deleon Guerrero outside his residence in Lower Miha in Garapan last Aug. 18.

It was Deleon Guerrero's alleged drug associate who handed the "ice" to the "con-

The CEC acting director said if there is a legal issue that comes out that conflicted OAG's representation, OAG will notify them.

Witry previously worked with the Commonwealth Law Revision Commission where he started in 2013. At the Law Revision Commission,

he served as deputy to the attorney for the CNMI Judiciary performing research and writing on legal issues.

Before coming to the CNMI, Witry worked for Idaho Legal Aid Services, where he represented low-income victims of domestic violence in divorce, custody, and civil

protection order cases.

CEC board chair Frances M. Sablan in a previous interview said they believe that their legal counsel is still the OAG until Manibusan would tell them otherwise because they have not received black and white, telling them OAG no longer serves as CEC's legal counsel.

The legal counsel matter was among the issues discussed during CEC's board meeting last month. The lack of legal counsel at the board meeting prevented CEC commissioners from making a decision whether they have authority to appoint an executive director.

Villagomez has been serv-

ing as acting CEC executive director for over a year now. She has been working with CEC for 28 years now.

CEC board chair Sablan said there was a question back in 2014 when the AG's position was up for the ballot. Traditionally, the OAG has been CEC's legal representative.

Sablan said because of the AG position now being on the ballot there was a question that maybe the office can no longer be CEC's legal counsel.

Sablan said they don't really need legal representation although they seek them whenever they have any legal questions.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has recessed its September 15th and 16th Meeting and will reconvene its session on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. at the Governor's Conference Room (Juan Sablan Memorial Bldg) in Capitol Hill, Saipan.

The Commission will continue its discussion and deliberation on Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's request to pledge the Casino License and other collaterals as security. Thereafter, the Commission will continue with its published agenda until adjournment.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

CHC: Person with Zika immune from virus after infection

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

People who got infected by the Zika virus would become immune from the arboviral disease that has already reached the Pacific region. Kosrae in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, American Samoa, Fiji, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Tonga have reported cases of Zika virus transmission.

This was according to state epidemiologist Dr. Paul White, MSc, PhD, who added that the virus does not stay in

a person forever. "[But] some recent evidence has found the virus in male semen for six months after infection."

Zika could also now be transmitted sexually aside from getting the virus after being bitten by a carrier mosquito. Medical experts advise persons who are known to be carriers of the virus to abstain from having sex, especially to women who are capable of bearing a child to prevent having the birth defect of microcephaly.

The virus was known to cause microcephaly or a congenital condition of an abnormal smallness of the head

that is linked with incomplete brain development. The virus became a worldwide concern when an outbreak took place in Brazil in May 2015.

White, however, said persons who were infected would be immune. "Once you have been infected you will develop immunity. This should be life long."

"This means that if a woman is infected now she should be protected and so if she gets pregnant later on she should be safe," added White.

He said, during last Friday's proclamation declaring October as Fight The Bite Awareness Month, that prevention

remains the best way to fight the virus since there's no known cure, treatment, or vaccine against the Zika virus. "It is a community effort and prevention is the keyword here."

"We must all be aware that mosquitoes—especially those that pass on the Zika, dengue, and chikungunya viruses—like to live around us and feed on us. They breed in water containers that surrounds us."

White said people in the community should maintain clean surroundings since it had been raining in the last few days. "So there would be a lot of mosquitoes around us."

It is absolutely essential that everybody work hard in keeping their yards clean and free of any standing water."

"You must do this not just once a month or once a week but every two or three days

"Check every materials you have in your backyard, children's toys, old tires, buckets you leave outside just empty it and keep it free of water. There's no water, no breeding ground for mosquitoes. No mosquitoes, no Zika."

Symptoms

White said the virus' incubation period inside a person is seven days after being bitten. "It can't be as long as two weeks. You'll get the same symptoms when you are about to get sick. Generally you will unwell."

"After two or three days it will progress and you may get joint pains. You're hands might swell up and you're fingers hurt when you clench your fist. You will also feel pain on upper joints. In Zika you will get pink or red eye or conjunctivitis."

Conjunctivitis, however, is common. "So it doesn't mean that every child has Zika, but it must have other symptoms as well. You will get rash on your body, little spots, slight fever, and pain in joints and hands."

"The virus comes and go quickly so it is essential if you have it, you must see doctor. We need to know since our concern is for pregnant women. We need to screen them, take care of them, and must try to identify any potential birth defects [of their child]."

Awareness month proclamation

Acting governor Victor B.

Hocog signed the proclamation declaring October as Fight The Bite! Awareness Month. He is hoping that the virus, which causes microcephaly to an unborn child, won't come to the CNMI.

Hocog, who just came back after a medical check up in Manila, Philippines, said that the day before he and his wife left the Philippines they heard in the news that there's now a case of Zika particularly in the island of Cebu.

"That's why if you are traveling, you really need to fill out the travel declaration correctly with emphasis on your health situation. Either you are leaving or arriving. It's always sad to see a child born with defects," he added.

Hocog said signing the proclamation is one way to start the government's awareness campaign to inform the community. "As leader, we should be mindful to ensure that we have preventive measures before it comes in to our island. I call all to be aware and mindful of their surrounding to reduce the risk of having mosquitoes with contacting the Zika virus."

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muna said that the community should be united in preventing the virus from reaching the CNMI. "It is about partnership and prevention. Trying to just get together."

"The message is clear, it can be prevented. Just follow the things that you need to do like cleaning up your surroundings. We've been fortunate but we don't know when it would reach us. We just need to be prepared."

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children 1 to 13 years old. Many times deaths and injuries can be prevented by proper use of car seats, boosters, and seat belts.

Child Passenger Safety Week

September 18 - 24, 2016

There are many car seat choices on the market. Use the information below to help you choose the type of car seat that best meets your child's needs.

Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, choose a seat that fits in your vehicle, and use it every time.

Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions (check height and weight limits) and read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or lower anchors and a tether, if available.

To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.

Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

Birth – 12 Months

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats:

- Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing.
- Convertible and All-in-one car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

1 – 3 Years

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.



FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

1 – 3 Years

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

4 – 7 Years

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.



BOOSTER SEAT

4 – 7 Years

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

8 – 12 Years

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.



SEAT BELT

8 – 12 Years

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.



AGE (YEARS)

Birth	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13+
Rear-Facing Car Seat													
Forward-Facing Car Seat													
Booster Seat													
Seat Belt													

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Car Seat Inspection Stations are located at:

DPS-Highway Safety Office • DPS Traffic Section • Garapan Fire Station • Koblerville Fire Station
Kagman Fire Station • Tinian Traffic Section • Rota Traffic Section



CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:

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NOTICE TO NMHC'S HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS RECIPIENTS

According to Article 12(A)(ii) of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) By-Laws, one (1) board member out of the eight (8) total board of directors must be a recipient of one of the housing assistance programs administered by NMHC. If you are a recipient of HUD's Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), New Construction Program (multifamily under Mihaville or Koblerville), HOME Program, or Neighborhood Stabilization Program and are interested in serving as a board member to assist and guide NMHC in the administration of its housing and community development mandates, please submit a notice of intent along with your background information on or before Friday, September 30, 2016, at NMHC's office in Garapan, Saipan. The NMHC Board of Directors will then select the board member to serve a one (1) year term.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, or Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director.

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho on Friday denied the defense's motion to modify the \$50,000 cash bail imposed on Manases Masga Manglona Sr., a 63-year-old retiree facing charges that he sexually abused a 12-year-old girl on several occasions on Rota.

Camacho found Roman Mendiola Calvo not suitable to serve as a co-third party custodian for Manglona as he has four previous criminal cases for assault and assault and battery.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Manglona.

Camacho ordered the parties to appear at the arraignment on Sept. 26 at 9am.

Last Tuesday, the judge found probable cause to believe that the crimes of two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree and one count of disturbing the peace were committed and that Manglona may have committed such offenses.

The judge dismissed the charge of assault and battery. He said assault and battery is a lesser included offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

It means that it is not necessary to charge assault and battery, as such offense is already included in the sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree charge.

Hocog signs proclamation for Child Passenger Safety and Nat'l Seat Check Week

Acting governor Victor Hocog proclaimed Sept. 18-24, 2016 as Child Passenger Safety and National Seat Check Week last Saturday afternoon at the Governor's Office conference room on Capitol Hill.

In his proclamation, Hocog said protecting children is everyone's responsibility. On average, two children under 13 were killed and 308 were injured every day in 2014 while riding in cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans.

The good news is that the 2014 numbers show a significant improvement from 2013, with a 5-percent decrease in fatalities and a 10-percent decrease in injuries in 2014. Hocog said the CNMI can continue to decrease these numbers with some important steps.

"The CNMI is committed to working closely with safety advocates to help ensure child arrive safe and alive. Our goal is to educate parents and caregivers about the best ways to keep kids safe while traveling, no matter how short or long the trip," he said in a statement.

During Child Passenger Safety Week, car seat safety checks will be held across the country. To learn more and locate an inspection station in your area, visit safercar.gov/parents. (PR)

Rota Police Detective Shaw Clay DLC. Taisacan stated in his report that Department of Public Safety Central received

Motion to modify \$50K bail of retiree charged with sexual abuse denied

a call last Sept. 6 from a principal of a school on Rota about

a sexual abuse of a minor case. Taisacan said investigation

showed that the girl confessed to a teacher that Manglona has

been sexually abusing her and that she wants it to stop.



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Kia Forte LX retail price \$17,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$234.53 or \$108.25 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$16,886.20.
Kia Soul LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$247.56 or \$114.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,824.32.

'It pays to give tips to Crime Stoppers'

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Crime Stoppers coordinator Jason Tarkong talked about stopping crimes and the added rewards in assisting police during the Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands' quarterly program meeting Thursday at Giovanni's Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Tarkong started with a brief history of Crime Stoppers and what it consists of.

"Crime Stoppers is an independent non-profit organization consisting of a partnership between the police, the media, and the community," said Tarkong.

He said Gregory Macaleese, a detective from Albuquerque, was investigating a crime back in the 1970s. While investigating a robbery of a gas station, Tarkong said Macaleese came up with the idea of getting the media involved to get the information out and creating

an anonymous line and if the tip led to an arrest, the tipster gets paid.

"It was a success. Within 24 hours he got a tip and there was a witness that remembered seeing a car matching the certain description on the paper and knew exactly where the owner of the car lived. They also solved three burglaries after that."

Tarkong shared that not many people would want to get involved with crimes for fear of getting dragged into it. "You

can call the Crime Stoppers hotline or you could go on the website, www.crimestoppers.net in the safety and privacy of your own home," he said.

Tarkong shared that every bit of information is valuable. "There is no such thing as bad information."

Tarkong said he deals with many tips such as those connected to drugs, tobacco, firearms, burglary, theft, stolen power, trash, murders, and even domestic violence.

He expressed that crimi-

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INCOME GUIDELINES:

You may qualify for LIHEAP if your income meets the following income guidelines.

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
Monthly Income (\$)	Monthly Benefits Schedule										
0 - 1,053	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65	\$69	\$74	\$78	\$83	\$87
1,054 - 1,422	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65	\$69	\$74	\$78	\$83
1,423 - 1,790	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65	\$69	\$74	\$78
1,791 - 2,159	0	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65	\$69	\$74
2,160 - 2,527	0	0	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65	\$69
2,528 - 2,896	0	0	0	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$65
2,897 - 3,264	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54	\$60
3,265 - 3,633	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$32	\$41	\$48	\$54

STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE IN YOUR HOME

Energy assistance is important to all that receive it, but more so if someone in your home is elderly, disabled or a young child under 6 years old. These persons are especially at risk for life threatening illness or death if their home is too hot in the summer.

You can face safety risks if you are unable to pay your home energy bills. Some people resort to unsafe methods to keep their homes cool.



Documents and information needed for the application are:

- Birth certificate or U.S. passport for all household members.
- Social Security Cards for all household members.
- Marriage certificates (if married to non-U.S. Citizen)
- CUC bill

Proof of Income:

- 1 Three (3) latest check stubs (all working household members)
- 2 Commissions
- 3 Employment Bonuses
- 4 Lease Agreement
- 5 Veterans Pension
- 6 Saving/Checking account
- 7 Social Security Statement
- 8 Child Support
- 9 Alimony
- 10 Monetary Inheritances
- 11 Interest and dividends from saving and investment
- 12 CNMI tax from 1040Mm if self employed



ERWIN ENCINARES

Crime Stoppers CNMI coordinator Jason Tarkong gives a presentation about the Crime Stoppers during the Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands quarterly program meeting at the Giovanni's Restaurant in Hyatt Regency Saipan last Thursday.

nals can be everyday people, even those who are the least expected.

"He could be your neighbor. He could be cleaning your yard. He could be outside cutting your grass. As a father of a beautiful 17-year old, I will be darned to let anybody touch her."

Tarkong is happy to inform the public about anything involving the safety and welfare of the community.

"I enjoy this; I enjoy educating the public. I believe I have a purpose in life and I believe that one of them is to educate the public about Crime Stoppers and it's availability and what it could do," he said.

Tarkong is also open to tips of any kind. "We'll take any type of tips, but majority of them are narcotics, burglaries, and sexual assault cases, especially of minors."

Crime Stoppers is a 24-hour system that enables people to report crimes or give tips anonymously, and if the tipster has aided in an arrest, the tipster is rewarded with money of up to \$1,000, depending on the crime.

To contact the Crime Stoppers, you can call the Crime Stoppers hotline 234-PARA (7272) or go to their website nmcimcrimestoppers.net provide any information on crimes.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy 66th birthday Daddy Francis Obusan! May you have many more birthdays to come. May God continue to bless you with good health and happiness. We love you! Love: JP, Jef, and Francine. Posing in photo with Daddy Francis is his wife Mommy Nimfa Obusan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DCCA OUTREACH:

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The shores of Tank Beach were rid of waste and debris.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
BSI-CSR staff Gina Tomokane and her grandson show their support.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR's Marvin Palacios gathers debris that includes slippers and beer bottles left carelessly on the beach.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR staff Fuji Suel and Jia Kapileo assist in the cleanup at Wing Beach.

BECQ, BSI conduct successful ICC

While the numbers are still being counted at how much trash were collected, volunteers and participants acknowledged that it was yet another successful International Coastal Cleanup jointly held over the weekend by the Bureau of Environmental Quality and Best Sunshine International, xLtd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility.

The 2nd International Coastal Cleanup was held on Saturday at five sites on Saipan. *(PR)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Volunteers join Best Sunshine International, Ltd.-Corporate Social Responsibility staff at San Antonio beach to support BECQ's International Beach Cleanup.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Volunteers collect data at one of the five sites that BSI managed for BECQ's International Coastal Cleanup.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR staff and volunteers work together at Pau Pau Beach to rid the area of debris and trash.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR team members gather together after clearing Wing Beach of trash and debris.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Best Sunshine CSR staff Rita Camacho and Nate Ada show some of the trash they found by Tank Beach.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR staff and volunteers with the trash they collected at Tank Beach.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The BSI-CSR staff and volunteers at the 13 Fishermen Monument.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trump's bid for female votes

Donald Trump's daughter Ivanka promised during the Republican National Convention that her father would offer more help to working families, and this week the elder Trump laid out more of the specifics: six weeks of paid maternity leave for new mothers and a new approach to tax breaks for child-care expenses. Perhaps the best that can be said is that it's refreshing to see a Republican presidential candidate advocate for federal paid family leave policies and financial assistance to help working parents afford the tremendous cost of raising children.

The plan itself? Like so much of what Trump has said during the campaign, the proposal falls short on details, including how to pay for these new benefits, and it's woefully out of touch with the needs of many families. Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton's plan is similarly lacking in key details, but at least it's more attuned to the challenges faced by the growing proportion of American families with no stay-at-home parents.

And yet, the nation is probably better off with Trump offering a flawed, half-baked plan, rather than no plan, because it suggests a bipartisan consensus that maternity leave and child care are critical national issues that the federal government can do much more to address.

The U.S. is one of the few industrialized nations that does not mandate the provision of paid leave for new mothers. Only 11 percent of American workers are covered by paid family leave programs. Research has shown that women are more likely to leave the workforce when their employer doesn't provide paid maternity leave, which is bad for family incomes and bad for the larger economy.

For women who do stay in the workforce, the next challenge is paying for child care. More than half of U.S. children under five require child-care alternatives because their parents work. For an increasing number of families, child care is their single largest expense — higher than what they pay for their housing. The annual cost of day care in some regions can be as much tuition at a public college.

Under Trump's plan, new mothers would be guaranteed a portion of their paycheck during six weeks of maternity leave, paid through the existing, employer-funded unemployment insurance system. Unemployment benefits vary from state to state; on average, they cover about one-third of a worker's wages. Trump wouldn't increase the tax on employers; instead, he would cover the added expense by reducing waste, fraud and abuse in the unemployment insurance system. Good luck with that.

Notably, his plan is limited to maternity leave — not paternity leave. That only enforces an outdated family model in which mothers are the primary caregivers, giving employers a disincentive to hire younger women and denying many fathers the opportunity to bond with and care for a new baby. Clinton's plan, by comparison, calls for 12 weeks of paid leave at two-thirds pay for both mothers and fathers. She has said she would cover the cost with higher taxes on the wealthy, which is also not a sure thing.

See TRUMP'S on Next Page



On the campaign trail

Candidates from all camps were out feeling the pulse of villagers in "house-to-house" visits recently. The old farts (incumbents) are the more pensive bunch. They find it difficult justifying their existence much less reelection, plastered with an abysmal record and persistent failure!

Most young voters have openly declared they want change. You're talking about 60-plus percent of total voters bolting against incumbents. This opens up opportunities for seasoned and trusted independent candidates for a perfect shot of a seat in the 20th NMI Legislature.

I'm angling for the opportunity to talk to political neophytes. It's a good time to test their perception, understanding, and depth about policymaking. I'm talking about substantive policy formulation people. Let's see what's up your sleeves! Learning to say "biba" isn't the beginning or the end of serious policymaking. I'm talking policymaking not policing!

Granted, the building and strengthening of strong governance entails a protracted process. The fallacies of a democracy are also part and whole of this process. At any rate, the work requires visionary leadership, integrity and a set of realistic plans. You'd also begin to see why the corrupt and druggy types amongst you must go!

Villagers' trail

The recent approval of a measure by politicians to rezone the sea-side of San Roque Village is a perfect example of the elite joining hands with rich friends to fortify their culture.

It's a new culture between political lapdogs and rich bosses dancing the waltz so punch drunk of their power as to even trash village-level sentiment against it. It's the tyranny of the politically powerful against the very people who placed them in office. Dios mihu!

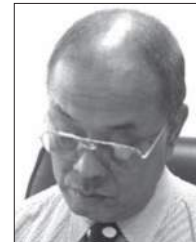
Even at the get-go, is there really sufficient CIP funds earmarked to accommodate major strides in growth in and around the shoreline up north? I know water is problematic up there. Was this issue taken into serious review?

Recalled in the late sixties my partaking in a lawsuit against the TTG in the planned use of Puntan Muchot for a luxury hotel or what's now the Hyatt Regency. Its historic significance was buried and overwhelmed under tons of talk about revenue generation or economic development.

Nonetheless, it was the historic role it played as the landing ground of fishermen and traders who'd take intermittent rests regrouping before the next trip into the open waters. It was the center of food gathering for local families who'd catch land crabs or pull nets with family members for the next meal. It was our last

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



prime land and venue of familial sustenance. It's gone!

I remember walking into the same swampland with neighborhood kids catching land crab for dinner. On our return to CK, we'd help families pull in nets to the shore. The family patriarch would share the catch with us as we head home at sunset. It was our historic relationship to the land and sea that investors never saw as significant and an integral part of our way of life. Their message is riddled with condescension and inconsequence.

Yes, it was the prime beaches taken from the indigenous people to build their hotels "my father and I once knew...singing kanaka blues." Sad the passivity with which we've embraced defending what's ours! Herein we begin to see, in perspective, the essence of Article XII! Or this could well trigger a far more proactive set of voters hence. Yes, we can recapture what's ours!

Infrastructure vs growth

Growth in neighboring Asian countries depends on how quickly their governments could emplace basic infrastructure like water, power, roads, and sewer system. Their emplacement instantly gravitates new investments that lends to economic growth. It provides the stability to generate both wealth and jobs creation anchored to a master plan of sort.

Here in the NMI, it's done differently or on an ad hoc basis. We welcome all investments as though basic infrastructure would instantly descend in various targeted areas of growth. Sadly, the Boysis on imperial Capital Hill begin to realize that something's amiss, big time, too!

As investors begin setting-up shop, the magnitude or size of their plans would eventually come into full view prompting villagers to ask: would there be enough water for everybody's use? Are there sewer and power systems in place for the expanded need? Would not a rushed judgment result in the displacement of

See TRAIL on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR**Don't be a sucker for politics**

I am learning that a lot of voters still think that the legalization of the marijuana initiative will be on the ballot in November. Sorry to say it but these voters are being played for suckers simply because they were not informed and didn't know. I contribute their ignorance to the fact that everyone does not read the paper or see the TV news. With the only communication left being the Coconut Wire that political agents can easily mislead and even fail to inform the people about the true facts. But the citizens who are informed actually have a fiduciary duty called "citizenry" to spread the truth through the Coconut Wire and to encourage a friend to tell another friend to spread the truth. If we the people want anything accomplished in government we have to be informed and active citizens which is the founding philosophy for making our democracy work properly. So please spread the word that legalization is not on the ballot as we the people are being played for suckers! The late filing of a bill that is going nowhere for two years if at all is politics for re-election, not politics for the people!

There are people out there who have actually been told that I was against the legalization of marijuana wish could not be further from the truth. I am against the Commonwealth Marijuana Regulations Act (CMRA) for many legitimate reasons. If the senator had truly cared about the sick like he claims his initiative would have been on the ballot, but it's not. Readers need to know that I was commissioned by the Senate leadership to conduct research and to improve CMRA which I did in collaboration with the Senate leadership. A set of amendments to the CMRA were created that was taken from the Cannabis Act which were the two alternatives to improving or replacing the CMRA but Sixto refused both options even though he knew the CMRA was flawed based on the research.

The idea was to improve the CMRA that had stalled in committee, which is why I was injected by the Senate leadership. The new legislation ended up being called the Cannabis Act to change the conflict with the bill having the same title as the CNMI code. There was a need to avoid ambiguities when referencing and to have a more marketable title for the bill as the Cannabis Act is a more conducive and catchy title for the cannabis tourism industry to market. Unlike the CMRA that was copied from Oregon Law, the Cannabis Act is designed specifically for the CNMI based on direct research on the state laws of Oregon, Washington and Colorado and the recommendations of policy experts at major U.S. universities who project that a direct gov-

ernment controlled system of legalization will be the superior model. The direct government control model offers the best controls, more individual entrepreneurship and the most beneficial to all of society by providing more revenues for the government. A direct controlled system in partnership with the private sector will provide more opportunities for more locals opposed to the CMRA private system that primarily benefits only those who are financially capable to start a business—the rich get richer and the poor stay poor under the CMRA!

The CNMI can't run and control the cannabis industry with a rotating \$100,000 budget as provided in the CMR Act. The cannabis industry is a multi-million dollar industry that is highly technical and is constantly evolving technologically. The CNMI is in a position to make 100s of millions over time even though it will take a million or two for the CNMI to just create the needed infrastructure for the cannabis industry, which can easily be obtained from the additional revenues starting to come in from the casino or through a bond that can easily be repaid. The great advantage for the CNMI is that there are investors from entrepreneurs to pharmaceutical and tobacco companies looking high and low to invest into the marijuana industry.

The CMRA failed to even recognize the hemp industry, which is a separate billion-dollar industry that other states have also failed to capitalize upon. The CNMI can be the first to export hemp products which will also create high-paying manufacturing jobs for locals only as alien workers cannot participate in the marijuana and hemp industries which is another thing the CMRA failed to address. Citizens must also ask does the CNMI want mom and pop operations with the CMR Act or do we want to promote real entrepreneurship for all the small stakeholders in big business operations with the Cannabis Act? Under the CMRA locals will need \$1,000 just to get a license to grow for a dispensary and then they must find a dispensary which will hire them or take their crops. But under the Cannabis Act the license is only \$100 that guarantees a contract for cultivation once approved—so I ask, do locals want to sign the front of the check as a contractor under the Cannabis Act or do locals want to be an employee who signs the back of the check under the CMRA?

The Cannabis Act is much more comprehensive than the CMR Act in addressing the many, many needs for infrastructure and support systems for legalization. The Cannabis Act offers improved controls over the entire inventory of marijuana and products, a complete administrative and enforcement unit, a youth educational support system and a youth deterrent program, improved private and commercial cultivation controls, better accountability and collection of taxes, a marijuana information both in the arrival area at the airport, the collection of all fines with a marijuana prevention checkpoint and amnesty box at the airport before leaving the CNMI, and countless other improvement over the CMRA. The CMRA overlooked all the

things I just mentioned and it even excluded people with a criminal record from getting a license. Heck, everyone with common sense knows we will need the people with convictions, especially marijuana convictions as they are the best cultivators. In fact, Colorado is faced with a class action lawsuit over this very issue of unfairly excluding people with criminal records from working in the cannabis industries when the state is violating federal law by legalizing marijuana. The CMRA was not well thought out and is full of oversights on the capacity and needs of the CNMI.

The CMRA's biggest mistakes are: 1. The enforcement of marijuana laws in the CMRA is placed on DPS when other states created separate enforcement divisions or used their existing alcohol enforcement division for many legitimate reasons. 2. The CMRA places the administrative functions on Commerce, which is not setup to enforce regulations as a regulatory entity over the industry(s). 3. The CMRA offers virtually no controls over the Industry, just the expected enforcement monitoring by DPS that most of us know can't be done by DPS. 4. The CMRA only allows for taxes and fees to be collected which will be negligible and even insufficient to cover cost due to our small tourist market and size. The CMRA missed a lot of very important things beyond these factors however, the Cannabis Act is a much more comprehensive piece of legislation that will be the best fit for the CNMI.

Ambrose M. Bennett*Kagman***POEMS****Prayers and well wishes for MV *Luta*****By JOEY "PEPE BATBON" CONNOLLY**

Ave Maris Stella, Hail Our Lady Star of the Sea
protehi pot fabot Senot Victor Hocog yan family.
please protect workers on the MV *Luta* from harm
when rough winds and typhoons make napu na tasi
give them a calm safe harbor in Tinian yan Saipan
guide them safely back to Rota their home port
let them dock and unload cargo back on dry land
let them listen to and hear a good weather report
we thank them for rescuing folks from the Northern isles
and bringing basic necessities to Rotanese people in need
medicine, food, and building supplies will bring smiles
we wish the whole crew of the MV *Luta* GODSPEED.
may they come and go sailing with calm winds and tide
bless Our Lady of the Sea and the MV *Luta* with pride

**Who am i to judge?
Dedicated to Pope Francis,
who asked****By JOEY "PEPE BATBON" CONNOLLY**

the new Argentine pope asked, "Who am I to judge?"
he felt the Curia was unwilling to budge
protected in the Papal enclave acreage
used to bearing that Roman Catholic guilt cudgel
only brief Papal bulletins they had to dodge
in a confessional mode their sins they could fudge
transgressors of truth many held more than one grudge
no sweat when confronted with a contrite deluge
till Francis gave them a non prosecutur nudge
look to the poorest you who need moral courage
down their path you may begin your penitent trudge
let love and forgiveness under your red caps lodge
though you all are part of the Cardinal's College
humility should prevail in your sacred knowledge

Joseph "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired CNMI PSS teacher who taught English on Tinian and Saipan from 1984 to 2014. He currently enjoys studying cosmology, Asian poetry, and life on Tinian.

TRAIL*From Page 10*

both investment and wellbeing of villagers?

Would it not delay timely wealth and jobs creation? Haven't we learned due diligence to prevent unbridled growth from retarding the very goal sought from the very beginning?

Minimum wage debate

I'm not particularly enamored by statutory imposition of minimum wage. I'm convinced it should be dictated by the strength of the local economy.

But then in the mid-'80s we attained financial solvency with tons of revenue. We even told the U.S. Congress (and I was there when we declared it) no more grant funds.

Subsequently, control of immigration was denied the NMI in 2008 that ended the \$1.2-billion apparel industry. It equally robbed the NMI of its revenue base. Today, we're bankrupt! I fought against it strictly in the belief of the NMI's economic freedom. The decision from DC was otherwise!

The crash into the valley of insolvency confirms, time and again, of the fragility of an island economy that is resource-poor since time immemorial. Has the NMI's elected elite buckled down to think this issue through in order that there's sustained revenue source for our expanding needs? Why has it conveniently skipped the ominous warning that anything could derail our allegedly "plenty money to go around" claim?

Or is this too difficult for the "solutions driven" team to render initial apprehension for it may bounce them off their comfortable nest?

TRUMP'S*From Page 10*

On child care, Trump would lessen the burden by giving parents a tax deduction for the average cost of child care in their state. For example, his campaign said a family earning \$70,000 and paying \$7,000 a year for child care would get an \$840 tax cut — or about a month's worth of day care. But the deduction would provide the greatest benefit to wealthier families, who pay more income tax. Low-wage workers, who often spend a disproportionately large share of the income on child care, pay little or no income tax. For families that pay no income taxes, Trump would increase the Earned Income Tax Credit by as much as \$1,200 a year. But a once-a-year-check from the government is not always helpful for families struggling week-to-week to pay their childcare bills.

Clinton has said she wants to significantly increase direct subsidies and tax breaks so families don't have to spend more than 10 percent of their income on child care. Subsidized care could be a big help to the parents who are paying 30 percent or more of their income for day care, but it would also be very expensive. And Clinton hasn't spelled out how she could pay for it beyond, again, raising taxes on the wealthy.

The U.S. has failed to keep up with other industrialized nations on family leave and child care. Perhaps that's because they have been framed as women's issues, when in fact they're important to the economy, social justice and the future prospects of millions of young Americans.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 5 to 10 mph.

▲ 90° ▼ 79°

TUESDAY

Partly cloudy. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Isolated showers.

▲ 90° ▼ 79°

WEDNESDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

THURSDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

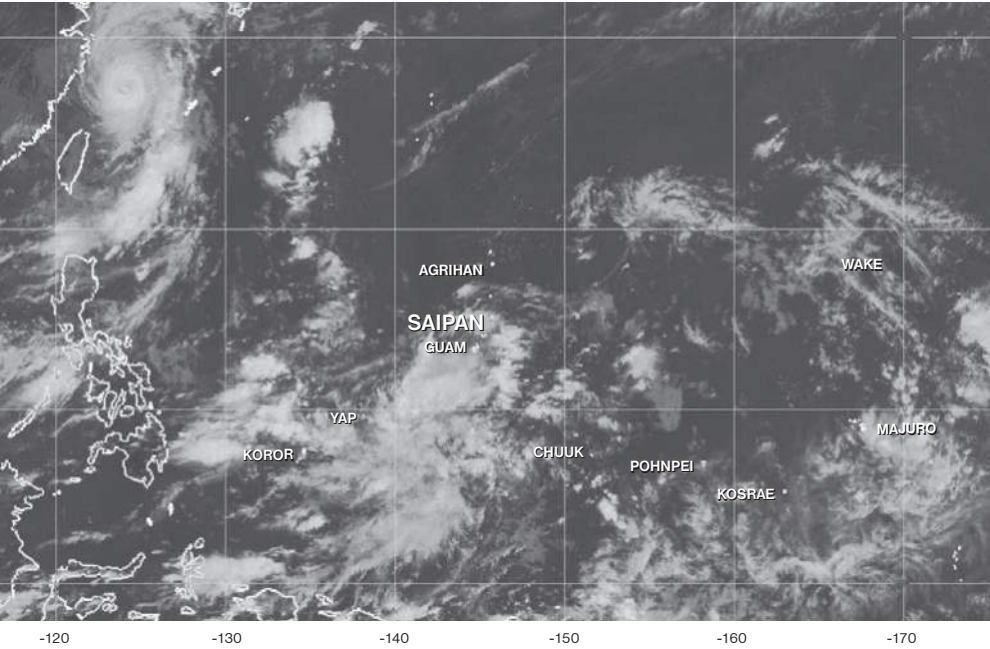
▲ 89° ▼ 79°

FRIDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:06 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Showers are still firing up across the Marianas as the upper trough passes by, but as the trough moves west and diurnal trends kick in later this morning, showers should decrease by afternoon. Mid-level drying is expected to bring an end to the potential for isolated thunderstorms by early Tuesday morning. The second half of the coming week is a big question mark, as both the GFS and ECMWF are showing a developing circulation moving in from the east Thu-Sun with the potential for heavy rain. However, the seed from which all of this is forecast to develop has yet to materialize out near the date line, so will remain skeptical for now and leave partly cloudy with isolated showers in the forecast from Tuesday on.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	82 / 90 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	79 / 86 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	76 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	83 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Afternoon clouds	48 / 59 °F
Beijing	Sunny	52 / 77 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	75 / 84 °F
London	Afternoon clouds	58 / 64 °F
Los Angeles	Partly sunny	63 / 83 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	82 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Morning clouds	47 / 60 °F
Miami	Cloudy	78 / 88 °F
New York	Thundershowers	73 / 77 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	72 / 82 °F
Paris	Mostly cloudy	58 / 73 °F
Pusan	Mostly cloudy	69 / 71 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	58 / 75 °F
Salem	Partly sunny	50 / 70 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	59 / 74 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	62 / 79 °F
Tokyo	Mostly cloudy	69 / 74 °F
Washington, DC	Cloudy	69 / 79 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
3:16 AM	LOW TIDE	0.15 Feet
9:17 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.04 Feet
3:36 PM	LOW TIDE	0.37 Feet
9:23 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.03 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	8:23 PM	8:11 AM
Tuesday	9:15 PM	9:12 AM
Wednesday	10:08 PM	10:13 AM
Thursday	10:03 PM	11:13 AM
Friday	11:59 PM	12:12 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM 6:30PM	6:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

TakeCare donates \$100,000 to UOG School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Representatives and students from the University of Guam School of Nursing and Health Sciences accepted a check worth \$100,000 from TakeCare Insurance Company on

Sept. 15. The donation is part of a multi-year partnership with the university, which concludes in 2020.

"The money we get from TakeCare every year is used

to fund so many aspects of our program," said Dr. Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. "The donation helps us create opportunities for both faculty and students to develop their skills."

In the past, the funds from TakeCare were used to upgrade the School's Learning Resource Center Simulation Lab, provide scholarships to students, offer professional development opportunities to

faculty, and buy instructional materials used to study for the NCLEX exam—a national standardized test nursing majors must take to become registered nurses. Hattori-Uchima said the funds have also been an integral part in establishing extra clinical classes for students during the summer and winter intersessions and funding a new, online NCLEX review course.

This summer, funds from TakeCare were also used to

pay for a nutrition course taken by senior health sciences major Lesley Abonales and junior nursing major Kamille De Leon as part of their participation in the Child Health Assessment in the Pacific Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

TakeCare President Jeff Larsen said that over the last nine years that the partnership has existed, UOG has produced and continues to produce quality nursing pro-

fessionals that eventually give back to the community.

"Obviously we want to improve community health, and one of the things this does is hopefully bring more nurses into the community," Larsen said. "We're very proud of the partnership with UOG and the nursing program. They've really got a great program, and we're really proud to be a partner in providing equipment, materials, scholarships and more." (PR)

Military to conduct training at FDM, W-517

ASAN, Guam—The military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ Sept. 17 from 8am to 9:30am

■ Sept. 19 from 8:30am to 3pm

■ Sept. 20 from 8am to 1pm

■ Sept. 23-25 from midnight to 11:59pm

The military will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) Sept. 23 from 5 m to noon.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides

frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, provide sufficient room to conduct the many training profiles required to support aircrew combat readiness requirements.


W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives from TakeCare Insurance Company presented a \$100,000 check to UOG's School of Nursing and Health Sciences on September 15. Front row (from left to right): TakeCare controller Al Almira, UOG assistant professor Dr. Nelson Franco, TakeCare president Jeff Larsen, UOG dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences Dr. Margaret Hattori-Uchima, UOG Nursing instructor Annama Varghese, and TakeCare Health Plan Financial administrator Alicia Iseke. Back row: UOG Nursing and Health Sciences students.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.net • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

AUCTION NOTICE

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID :
011 G 1243	KAGMAN III, KAMAS ST., CORNER KAHET AVE., SAIPAN	\$32,000.00
010 K 169	SIRENA AVE., DANDAN, SAIPAN	\$30,000.00
005 I 129	POTU COURT, KOBLERVILLE, SAIPAN	\$43,000.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 19, 2016 subject to the following terms and conditions:


- Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property is as indicated above.
- Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for these properties listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC. Also, failure to deposit the 10% of the purchase price on the same day will subject NMHC to award the winning bid to the next highest bidder. All auction terms and rules must apply to the next highest bidder.
- Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 8th day of August, 2016.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
 Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal housing provider, lender and employer.

NO JOB is a good job unless it's a SAFE job



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Labor



Contact the CNMI DOL OSHA On-Site
 Consultation for your free consultation services.

Your commitment in improving the safety and health of your
 business for your employees is a **SMART INVESTMENT.**
 Workers killed, hurt, or made sick by their
 jobs is not a good business practice.
YOUR commitment and **OUR** commitment in providing
YOUR FREE consultation services is **TOGETHER OUR BUSINESS.**
CNMI DOL OSHA On-Site Consultation Office
664-3156/3157

This ad is paid for by the USDOL, OSHA Administration



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950
HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



**PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

It is the policy of the State Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School Personnel System shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 – 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disabilities or place of origin.

Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

POSITION/TITLE: COMMISIONER OF EDUCATION

EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: **PSS 2016-175**

OPENINGDATE: **September 13, 2016**

CLOSING DATE: **October 13, 2016**

SALARY: PAYLEVEL/GRADE: **UNGRADED** Step(s): **UNGRADED - \$85,000 - \$120,000 PA plus benefits**

BENEFITS: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays).

LOCATION: **PSS, Board of Education**

The CNMI State Board of Education for the Public School System is seeking a student-centered and exemplary educational leader to serve as the Commissioner of Education.

The Commissioner of Education must be a dynamic, motivated educational leader with a collaborative management style and excellent communication skills and has demonstrated a commitment to education excellence. Additionally, the successful candidate will demonstrate knowledge and experience in applying and implementing current education research and practices and has a clear record of improving student achievement. The successful candidate must also demonstrate organizational knowledge and skills.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The Commissioner of Education is the Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system and is responsible for all of its operations, programs, and activities.
- The Commissioner is appointed by the Board of Education for a term of four (4) years and serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- This position shall serve as the primary Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Public School system (PSS). Duties include:
 1. Compliance with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Constitution, CNMI laws, Board of Education (Board) Policies, and PSS rules and regulations and implementation of Board policies;
 2. Make recommendations to the Board objectives, program plans, functional and personnel organizations, policies, budgets, and capital improvement plans;
- Develops and recommends for approval of the Board, a comprehensive accountability program for all aspects of PSS within ninety (90) days of employment as commissioner.
- Submits to the Board, the Governor, and the Commonwealth Legislature a detailed Annual PSS Education Report which discusses issues, challenges, instructional and academic progress and other subjects the Commissioner may deem necessary within thirty (30) days of the close of each school year.
- Develops and presents to the Board an annual School Performance Report Card for each school. This report will be presented concurrently with the Annual Report.
- Attends and participates in all Board and standing Committee meetings when requested to do so by the chair of that respective committee;
- Works with the Chairman of the Board in formulating the agenda for Board meetings;
- Plans and develops short and long range programs within the budgetary requirements, facility needs, and transportation requirements within ninety (90) days of initial employment and within thirty (30) days of the beginning of each subsequent school year.
- Plans and develops administrative and instructional programs based on empirical data.
- Provides leadership in the development of positive and creative personnel relationships; Provides leadership in the development of a healthy system-wide work climate through effective and efficient communication, empowerment, trust and supportive personnel relationships.
- Develops and maintains positive communication among employees and Board members.
- Reports to the Board, personnel plans and policies, including classification on recruitment, appointments, promotions, salary raises, and discipline.
 1. Notifies the Board when there is a need for reduction in force;
 2. Listens and responds expeditiously to employee's appeals;
- Provides for the equitable distribution of resources throughout PSS
 1. Has discretion to issue exemptions for students to attend classes in another attendance district;
 2. Reviews and approves all field trips;
 3. Grants exceptions to entrance age requirements;
 4. Exhausts all measure before granting expulsion of students or appeals of suspensions;
 5. Establishes policies to ensure school personnel's participation and involvement in parent-school organizations;
 6. Develops a fee schedule for the use of PSS facilities, buses, equipment or property;
 7. Reviews and approves all travel authorizations and vouchers;
 8. Reviews and approves all obligation documents;
 9. Reviews and approves all personnel service contracts;
- Presents an annual plan of staff organization and the assignment of personnel to the Board;
- Prepares and submits to the Board Standard Operating Administrative Procedures;
- Serves as a liaison on behalf of the Public School System with the Commonwealth Legislature, the Governor, various Commonwealth departments, agencies, and the community;
- Communicates and informs the Board of all significant developments;
- The Commissioner shall perform these duties as well as all other duties as may be assigned by the Board consistent with Board policies.
- Shall promote clear communications and parental involvement including school communities.

JOB RELATED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNMENTS:

The statements contained herein describe the scope of the responsibility and essential function of this position, but should not be considered to be the only duties and responsibilities of employee(s). Individuals may perform other duties as assigned including work in other areas to cover absences or relief to equalize peak work periods or otherwise balance the workload. Employee(s) may be requested to supervise and/or train the employees. Employee(s) will be required to follow any other job-related duties requested by any person authorized to give instructions or assignments.

FORTY (40) HOUR WORKWEEK:

The normal work period shall be a seven (7) days work period with a maximum non-overtime of forty (40) hours.

The Public School System (PSS) operates on a 40 hour work week. Actual working hours will be determined on the basis of operational efficiency. School Principals, Supervisors or Program Managers will establish working schedules subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION OF THE JOB:

The duties and responsibilities listed herein have excluded the functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of fundamental job duties. All duties and responsibilities listed herein are essential job functions and requirements and are subject to modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. To perform this job successfully, the incumbent(s) will possess the skills, aptitudes, and abilities to perform each duty proficiently. Some positions may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health or safety of themselves or others. The qualification requirements listed in this document are the minimum levels of knowledge, abilities and skills required to perform this position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant for the Commissioner of Education must have the following minimum qualifications:

1. Masters Degree in some field of education from a U.S. accredited college or university
2. At least five (5) years experience as a classroom teacher and at least five (5) years experience as a school administrator
3. Demonstrated knowledge of state and local education systems
4. Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of multidiverse school systems
5. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English
6. Eligible to work in the U.S. including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
7. Excellent moral character and has never been convicted of a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good interpersonal and communication skills. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.
- Ability to work as part of a team. Strong staff collaboration is a standard at the PSS.
- Ability to perform multiple tasks.
- Demonstrate integrity and impartiality.
- Professional, interpersonal and communication skills.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, including giving and receiving feedback.
- Awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues and local community practices.

CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

This position is considered "EXEMPT STATUS": It is NOT eligible for overtime pay or compensatory time and is paid on a salary basis pursuant to Regulations for PSS Employment of Non-Certified Personnel and Fair Labor Standards Act.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

All applicants must complete and submit a Board of Education/Public School System Non-Certified Employment Application Form. Interested applicants may obtain the application form at the Human Resources Office located on Capitol Hill, Building 1202. The Non-Certified Employment Application Form may also be downloaded from the website at <http://www.cnmipss.org/jva/>. Interested individuals may also call the Human Resources Office for an electronic copy of the form.

All inquiries related to this vacancy should be forwarded to: Ms. Lucretia Borja, Assistant Director of the Human Resources Office, CNMI Public School System, P.O.Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950. Phone number 670-664-3824; Fax number 670-664-3826; Email address: lucretia.borja@cnmipss.org ; brandon.nicholas@cnmipss.org

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN AND SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT CAPITOL HILL BUIDLING 1202.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION FORMS: RESUME OR CURRICULUM VITAE; WRITTEN RESPONSE TO NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION PACKET OR ON THE WEBSITE); FOUR (4) RECENT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL WORK AND EXPERIENCE IN STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS; OFFICIAL COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TRANSCRIPTS

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, CAPITOL HILL BUIDLING 1202 P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. NO. (670) 664-3824.

YOUR APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE OF THE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT.

Joint Region Marianas addresses Radon testing

ASAN, Guam—Commander, Joint Region Marianas and the Naval Base Guam (NBG) Public Works Department are taking steps to address elevated radon levels found during recent radon testing conducted as part of the Navy's Radon Assessment and Mitigation Program.

The levels of radon are well below the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard considered safe for normal daily work environments and are not considered to pose an immediate danger to the workforce. Although safe for work, Navy and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines are much more conservative than OSHA standards and establish mitigation actions and timelines to reduce radon levels. The Joint Region Marianas (JRM) team is focused on mitigation efforts in the affected buildings to meet Navy and Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

"We are committed to the health and safety of our employees," said Joint Region Marianas Commander, Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar. "While it is safe for our staff to work, we are taking action to immediately address this issue."

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is produced by the breakdown of naturally occurring uranium and is a common component of the soil and rocks under all homes and buildings around the world. Outdoors, radon is harmlessly diluted by the atmosphere. However, sometimes in enclosed places, radon can accumulate to levels requiring corrective action.

JRM personnel will be kept informed of updates as information becomes available.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. **(PR)**

Survivors and caregivers support meeting on Sept. 29

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Sept. 29, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room.

The guest speaker will be Lauren Carter, hospice and palliative care nurse practitioner finishing up fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the No. 2 cancer center in the U.S. To RSVP or for more information, please call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. **(PR)**

Matson pays tribute to late Micronesian master navigator

GUAM—Matson, a leading U.S. carrier in the Pacific, yesterday continued its 20th anniversary celebration in Guam and Micronesia with a special vessel naming ceremony honoring one of Micronesia's most renowned navigators—Pius "Mau" Pailug, fondly known in the Pacific navigation community as "Papa Mau."

Members of the Pailug family arrived from islands throughout Micronesia to attend the ceremony at the Port Authority of Guam, and members of the Yapese community on Guam honored Pailug's memory with traditional performances as the vessel was officially blessed and named "Papa Mau."

"Matson is proud to christen the newest vessel in its Guam/Micronesia service Papa Mau in honor of 'Mau' Pailug's singular influence in the perpetuation of

traditional wayfinding and celestial navigation," said Bernadette Valencia, Matson general manager for Guam and Micronesia. "As the Papa Mau navigates the islands in the Pacific for many years to come, we will be reminded of 'Mau's' far reaching legacy."

Pailug, who passed away in 2010, was from the island of Satawal and widely known for sharing his knowledge with navigators throughout the Pacific. In 1976, he guided the

crew of the Hawaii voyaging canoe Hokule'a on its historic 34-day voyage from Hawaii to Tahiti using nothing but traditional navigation methods. Nainoa Thompson, Hokule'a navigator, president of Polynesian Voyaging Society and one of five Hawaii navigators upon whom Pailug bestowed the traditional master navigator title of pwo in 2007, said

of the ship naming, "It honors his name, his legacy and what he has done for all Pacific people."

Founded in 1882, Matson is a leading U.S. carrier in the Pacific. Matson provides a vital lifeline to the economies of Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Micronesia and select South Pacific islands, and operates a premium, expedited service from China to Southern California. The Company's fleet of 22 owned vessels includes containerships, combination container and roll-on/roll-off ships and custom-designed barges. Matson Logistics, established in 1987, extends the geographic reach of Matson's transportation network throughout the continental U.S. Its integrated, asset-light logistics services include rail intermodal, highway brokerage, warehousing, and less-than-container load ("LCL") freight consolidation and forwarding to Alaska. Additional information about Matson, Inc. is available at www.matson.com. (PR)

» Vessel named in honor of Pius 'Mau' Pailug to navigate, serve Pacific islands

American Red Cross launches Hero Care app

Last Friday the American Red Cross unveils the new Hero Care mobile application. This free app is designed to help members of the military, veterans and their families identify and access both emergency and non-emergency Red Cross services from anywhere in the world.

"When an emergency happens, accurate information, easy access to services and time are of the essence, especially for military families," said John Hirsh, executive director. "That's why the Red Cross has designed the new Hero Care App—whether you're the parent of a child joining the military, a military member, a military spouse or a veteran, the Hero Care App will connect your vital services and guide you to valuable resources that will help alleviate stress during emergencies and provide important information right at your fingertips."

Some the important features of the app include:

■ Request Red Cross emergency services including an emergency message or assistance with emergency travel or emergency financial aid.

■ Securely and easily access information about their service member in the case of an emergency, including

updated information as they move or change duty assignments.

■ Access non-emergency Red Cross behavioral health assistance including financial assistance and free local workshops for military kids and spouses.

■ Find local resources and information provided by trusted community partners like Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), Blue

Star Families, Military Child Education Coalition, United Way, Goodwill, Easter Seals, and others.

■ Locate information on key government resources such as MilitaryOneSource, VA Benefits and Services, Department of Labor VETS, the VA Caregiver Support Program, and SAMSHA Community Health Support Services.

Content in the Hero Care

App is available in both English and Spanish, and the call center is staffed 24/7 with multi-lingual translation services.

The Hero Care App is available to download for free in app stores, by texting 'GETHEROCARE' to 90999 or by clicking on the following link from a mobile device <http://3cu.be/sharehc>.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross. (PR)

CCA board meeting on Sept. 27

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors will be holding its regular Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president, program updates, and an off-island guest Lauren Carter, a hospice and palliative

care nurse practitioner finishing up fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the No. 2 cancer center in the country. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email - robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Imwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL I On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Director of Law Enforcement and Security in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms; and
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be \$16,652 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Business

AP, other media sue FBI for details on iPhone hacking tool

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Associated Press and two other news organizations sued the FBI on Friday to learn who the government paid and how much it spent to hack into an iPhone in its investigation into last year's San Bernardino, California, massacre.

The lawsuit seeks records about the FBI's contract with an unidentified vendor who provided a tool to unlock the phone used by Syed Rizwan Farook, who with his wife killed 14 people at a holiday gathering of county workers in December 2015.

Gannett, the parent company of USA Today, and Vice Media LLC joined the complaint with the AP, seeking to learn more about the mysterious transaction that cut short a legal dispute in which the government sought to force Apple Inc. to unlock the phone.

"Understanding the amount that the FBI deemed appropriate to spend on the tool, as well as the identity and reputation of the vendor it did business with, is essential for the public



to provide effective oversight of government functions and help guard against potential improprieties," said the suit, filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act.

In rejecting earlier requests to divulge the information, the government had said revealing

the records could affect "enforcement proceedings," but did not elaborate. FBI spokesman Chris Allen declined to comment Friday.

The case stems from the FBI's announcement in March that it had purchased a tool to unlock the iPhone, aborting the court fight with Apple that had in turn triggered a debate

about the proper balance between electronic privacy and national security.

The FBI for weeks had maintained that only Apple could help it access the work-issued phone, which was found in a car after the shooting and was protected by a passcode that included security protocols. At the Jus-

In this Feb. 17, 2016 file photo an iPhone is seen in Washington. The Associated Press and two other news organizations sued the FBI on Friday to learn who the government paid and how much it spent to hack into an iPhone in its investigation into last year's San Bernardino, California, massacre.

tice Department's request, a magistrate judge in February directed Apple to create software that would bypass security features on the phone so that the FBI could get into the device and scour it for potential evidence. Apple contested the order, saying the FBI's demand set a dangerous precedent and could undercut security protections for its customers.

The two sides were headed for a court showdown when Justice Department officials

revealed that a party outside the U.S. government brought it a potential solution to unlock the phone. The FBI said a week later it successfully entered the phone using the tool. The lawsuit cites media reports as saying investigators did not find any links to foreign extremist groups on the device.

Though FBI Director James Comey has released some details about the transaction, including saying that the FBI paid more than he'll earn for his remaining years in the position, the agency has refused to say how much the solution cost or reveal how it worked. It also refused to share the information with Apple, which had expressed concern that circumventing its security protections could compromise its products.

Native American candidates hope for pipeline protest boost

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP)—Henry Red Cloud's recent trip to the Dakota Access pipeline protest camp near the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation filled him with conviction, compelling the South Dakota Democratic candidate to dance, sing—and campaign.

The 56-year-old Oglala Sioux green energy entrepreneur hopes the vigor focused on defeating the \$3.8 billion, four-state Dakota Access pipeline will help win his longshot bid for election to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, which regulates oil pipelines.

Red Cloud, a direct descendant of famous Lakota warrior and leader Red Cloud, is ap-

plying a new approach among tribal members working to stop oil development: become a regulator instead of having to ask for their help. He is one of at least two Native Americans nationwide running for such a post.

"A whole lot of people are going to start voting here in the state of South Dakota," Red Cloud, who lives near Oglala, told The Associated Press. "I'm also bringing the awareness out on what the PUC regulates, and it's all about currently what's happening in Standing Rock camp."

Since April, there's been a tribal protest at the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri rivers in southern North

Dakota, and it has grown considerably. Owned by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, the \$3.8 billion, 1,172-mile project would carry nearly a half-million barrels of crude oil daily from North Dakota's oil fields through South Dakota and Iowa to an existing pipeline in Patoka, Illinois.

The Republican-controlled Public Utilities Commission, which approved the Dakota Access pipeline project last year, is leading South Dakota in a "downward spiral" rather than toward its huge potential for leadership in renewable energy, said Red Cloud, who is running as a Democrat. He is running on a green energy

platform for a six-year term against Chris Nelson, a Republican former secretary of state who has served on the three-member commission since 2011.

Nelson, 52, has been campaigning on keeping electricity rates low and expanding broadband internet access in rural areas. He said he has a record of making decisions absent a political agenda or personal whims.

"What I think of an oil pipeline is absolutely irrelevant in the job that I do as a Public Utilities commissioner," Nelson said, adding that he has to make judgments on each case based on the facts presented and the law that applies.

Yelp warns California lawsuit could scrub critical reviews

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Yelp.com is warning that a California lawsuit targeting critical posts about a law firm could lead to the removal of negative reviews and leave consumers with a skewed assessment of restaurants and other businesses.

Lawyer Dawn Hassell said the business review website is exaggerating the stakes of her legal effort, which aims only to remove from Yelp lies, not just negative statements, that damaged the reputation of her law firm.

Though its impact is in dispute, the case is getting attention

from some of the biggest Internet companies in the world, which say a ruling against Yelp could stifle free speech online and effectively gut other websites whose main function is offering consumers reviews of services and businesses.

A San Francisco judge determined the posts were defamatory and ordered the company to remove them two years ago, which a second judge and a state appeals court upheld.

Yelp is asking the state Supreme Court to overturn the order. The high court faces an Oct. 14 deadline to decide whether to hear the case or let

the lower-court ruling stand. Experts expect Yelp to prevail.

"There were a lot of people who were unhappy about this opinion," said Eric Goldman, co-director of the High Tech Law Institute at Santa Clara University School of Law.

Internet giants Facebook, Twitter and Microsoft said in a letter to the California Supreme Court last month that the ruling "radically departs from a large, unanimous and settled body of federal and state court precedent" and could be used to "silence a vast quantity of protected and important speech."

Yelp said it would give businesses unhappy about negative reviews a new legal pathway for getting them removed. They could sue the person who posted the content and then get a court order demanding the Internet company remove it.

But Hassell disputes the ruling would do anything that drastic.

Her 2013 lawsuit accused a client she briefly represented in a personal injury case of defaming her on Yelp by falsely claiming that her firm failed to communicate with the client, among other things.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Germans rally against planned EU trade deals with US, Canada

BERLIN (AP)—Thousands of people are rallying in cities across Germany to protest against planned European Union trade deals with the United States and Canada. Opponents say the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership being negotiated between the U.S. and the EU would undermine European environmental standards and consumer rights. Protesters gathered in Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Leipzig and Frankfurt on Saturday may have felt emboldened by Germany's economy minister, who declared last month that the TTIP talks had "de facto failed, even though nobody is really admitting it." His assertion was swiftly rejected by officials in Washington and Brussels. Negotiations for a similar deal with Canada have progressed further, although France, Germany and Austria have voiced lingering concerns.

Backers say such trade deals would boost the global economy.

Johnson & Johnson to buy Abbott's vision unit for \$4.33B

NEW YORK (AP)—Johnson & Johnson said Friday that it is paying more than \$4.3 billion in cash to buy the eye health unit of Abbott Laboratories as it seeks to boost its vision business. The unit, called Abbott Medical Optics, makes lasers and other equipment used for cataract surgeries and laser vision correction procedures. It also

makes eye drops and cleaners for contact lenses. AMO posted sales of \$1.1 billion last year. Johnson & Johnson said that the purchase will enter it into the cataracts surgery market and grow its own vision business, which includes Acuvue contact lenses. The New Brunswick, New Jersey, company makes baby shampoo, blood testing equipment and other health care products.

For-profit college operator ITT files for bankruptcy

CARMEL, Ind. (AP)—For-profit college operator ITT Educational Services Inc. has filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy. The Indianapolis Star reported Friday (<http://indy.st/2cfFMkV>) that the Carmel, Indiana-based company is unloading its assets after the shutdown of 130 campuses nationwide. The closure displaced more than 35,000 students and more than 8,000 employees. It is the second major for-profit college operator to file for bankruptcy in the past two years amid a federal crackdown on the industry. ITT has blamed government regulation. Its critics have pointed to fraud charges from the Securities and Exchange Commission and investigations and lawsuits from about 20 state attorneys general. ITT was accused of failing to disclose bad loans, inflating job placement numbers and using aggressive recruiting tactics. ITT listed its assets and liabilities at between \$100 million and \$500 million.

Nation

29 injured in explosion in NYC's Chelsea neighborhood

NEW YORK (AP)—An explosion in a crowded Manhattan neighborhood on Saturday night left 29 people injured, and authorities said a second nearby site was also being investigated. Mayor Bill de Blasio called the blast an “intentional act,” but said there was no terrorist connection.

“Tonight, New York City experienced a very bad incident,” de Blasio said at a

news conference near the scene in Chelsea. “We have no credible and specific threat at this moment.”

De Blasio said the blast was “an intentional act” and tried to calm any fears among nervous New Yorkers, saying the explosion had no terrorist connection and wasn’t related to a pipe bomb explosion earlier Saturday in New Jersey at a charity run.

A law enforcement official

told The Associated Press that a second device that officers were investigating four blocks from the scene appeared to be a pressure cooker attached to wiring and a cellphone. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak

about an ongoing investigation, said the device was found inside a plastic bag on West 27th Street.

A law enforcement official told The Associated Press that the explosion appears to have come from a construction toolbox in front of a building. The official spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity because the person wasn’t authorized to speak about an ongoing investigation. New York officials said the incident was not due to a gas leak.

The blast happened on West 23rd street, in front of a residence for the blind, near a major thoroughfare

with many restaurants and a Trader Joe’s supermarket. Witnesses say the explosion at about 8:30 p.m. blew out the windows of businesses and scattered debris in the area. Officials said no evacuations were necessary.

Police spokesman J. Peter Donald said several people were taken to hospitals with injuries. One of the injured suffered a puncture wound that was considered serious. Officials said the other injuries were minor, described as scrapes and bruises.

Donald tweeted a warning to residents near the second site that officials are investigating, saying: “As a precautionary measure, we are asking residents who live on West 27th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues in Manhattan to stay away from windows facing 27th Street until we clear the suspicious.”

A number of New York City subway routes were affected by the earlier explosion.

Chris Gonzalez, visiting from Dallas, was having dinner with friends at a restaurant in the area.



Police and firefighters work near the scene of an apparent explosion in Manhattan’s Chelsea neighborhood, in New York, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016.

After summer of attacking Trump, Clinton now focuses on herself

WASHINGTON (AP)—All summer long, Hillary Clinton delighted in snappy attack lines about Donald Trump.

Electing the billionaire, she warned, would be a “historic mistake.” The Republican nominee perpetuates “outlandish Trumpian ideas.” Clinton reveled in imagining her rival “composing nasty tweets” as she derided him as “temperamentally unfit and totally unqualified” to be president.

But as the campaign moves into the final stretch, Clinton finds herself chasing an even more elusive target: herself.

Just seven weeks before Election Day and Clinton’s poll numbers slipping, her campaign is trying—yet again—to explain one of the world’s most famous politicians to a skeptical public.

The effort marks an unusual moment of introspection for Clinton, who has long refused to engage in the kind of public self-examination that can help transform would-be heads of state into relatable figures.

The start of September brought a series of near-apologies from Clinton, a notable shift for a candidate who took months to express remorse for her decision to use a private email system while running the State Department.

Her vote for the Iraq war and decision to set up a private email server in her suburban New York home were both “a mistake,” she said at a national security forum hosted by NBC. A late-night comment at a fundraiser that half of Donald Trump’s supporters fit into a “basket of deplorables” prompted a quick statement of partial regret—for branding “half” of them that way.

And her campaign took “responsibility” for not being “fast enough” in disclosing she had pneumonia after a video showed Clinton staggering leaving a 9/11 ceremony.

She also lamented that some

voters view her as aloof.

“I don’t view myself as cold or unemotional,” she said in her post to the popular website Humans of New York. “And neither do my friends. And neither does my family.” She went on: “But if that sometimes is the perception I create, then I can’t blame people for thinking that.”

The campaign hopes that such public shows of humility, alongside a series of speeches designed to lay out her vision for the country, will persuade voters to reconsider their feelings about Clinton.

In the campaign’s final stretch, her aides plan to show off Clinton in governing mode—meeting world leaders during the United Nations General Assembly meeting in New York City, for example. They argue that people like Clinton more when she’s serving in office than when she’s campaigning. Invitations to some creative media appearances, such as a turn on the “Funny or Die” comedy site, have been accepted to play up the warm, self-effacing Clinton that friends say they see in private.

The strategy is designed to address Clinton’s biggest political liability: A majority of voters simply do not trust her.

Ratings of her honesty have remained stubbornly low in polling—even among Democrats. Just 35 percent of Americans, surveyed in an ABC News/Washington Post poll this month, see Clinton as honest and trustworthy, down from a high of 53 percent in June 2014. Trump ranked only slightly lower at 31 percent.

Strategists worry that Clinton’s character issues have contributed to a lack of understanding about why she’s running for president, a pressing concern given that absentee ballots are now available in a few states.

Measuring Occupy Wall Street’s impact, 5 years later

NEW YORK (AP)—For a time, Occupy Wall Street was everywhere with its grass-roots encampments—first in New York City, then globally—and the refrain, “We are the 99 percent!”

And then it was gone. Its most famous camp in lower Manhattan was cleared out in an overnight police raid two months after it started, and other Occupy locations fizzled soon thereafter.

But five years later, demonstrators gathered once again in New York City’s Zuccotti Park on Saturday to commemorate the movement and what they said has been its lasting impact.

About two dozen attended the gathering, many holding signs to demand political and banking reform. Others chanted, blew whistles and carried photo cutouts of politi-

cal figures, including former Attorney General Eric Holder. As the group recounted its time occupying the park, tour groups stopped to catch a glimpse of the action.

Occupy Wall Street takes some of the credit for introducing income inequality into the broader political discourse, for inspiring the fight for a \$15 minimum wage and, most recently, for creating a receptive audience for the Democratic presidential campaign of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

“Everyone knows we were right,” said Caleb Maupin, who was working in the insurance industry when he first joined the movement five years ago. “We had a major campaign for president with Bernie Sanders. The campaign was like a giant Occupy Wall Street rally, talking about the 99 percent and the one percent

because millions of people know we were right.”

Maupin, who said he would rush to Zuccotti Park every night after work, was arrested twice during the group’s two-month encampment. He said it helped shape the country’s political discourse.

And some political observers even draw a line between the movement and the rise of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, who tapped into the vein of suspicion against the power of elites—the 1 percent—that Occupy made ubiquitous.

“We had sort of a deep-down effect on activists all around the world,” said Kalle Lasn of the Vancouver, British Columbia-based “Adbusters” magazine, among those who put out the call for a protest of Wall Street to take place Sept. 17, 2011. “We politicized a

whole generation of young people who didn’t quite know what to do with their activism and their feelings of anger.”

While critics of Occupy took issue with it at the time for its lack of specific demands, a clear organizational structure or strategies for next steps, it has come to resonate politically, said Heather Gautney, a sociology professor at Fordham University.

She pointed to Sanders’ campaign, saying Occupy’s injection of income inequality into the discourse paved the way for the senator’s calls to get money out of politics, rein in Wall Street banks and provide free public college education.

Nicholas Kiersey, a political science professor at Ohio University, said Trump’s political presence is part of Occupy’s impact, as well.

8 people taken to a hospital after Minnesota mall stabbings

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP)—At least eight people were taken to a hospital with injuries after a stabbing attack at a Minnesota shopping mall on Saturday evening which ended with the suspected attacker dead inside the mall.

St. Cloud Hospital Communications Specialist Chris Nelson told the St. Cloud Times that of the eight peo-

ple brought there, seven had injuries that were not life-threatening. No further details were released.

Police Sgt. Jason Burke said the mall remains on lockdown.

“The individual we believe to be responsible for the victims’ stab wounds is currently deceased inside the mall,” Burke said in a statement. He did not say how the suspect died.

Harley and Tama Exsted of Isle, Minnesota, who were in St. Cloud to watch their son play in a college golf tournament, were in the mall when the incident occurred.

“All of a sudden I heard pop pop pop,” Harley Exsted told the St. Cloud Times. “I thought someone tipped over a shelf. All of a sudden these people started run-

ning. I just saw everybody running our way.”

There also were reports of some shots fired during the attack.

The couple were unharmed and said they helped another woman who was running from the scene to her car.

St. Cloud is about 70 miles (112.65 kilometers) northwest of Minneapolis.

Asia

North Korea rushes to obtain supplies, shelter to flood victims

ONSONG, North Korea (AP)—North Korean soldiers and relief teams rushed to clear roads and railway tracks, build shelters and provide food and sanitation Friday to tens of thousands of residents in a remote part of the country near the Chinese border that was devastated by heavy downpours and flash floods when a typhoon pounded their villages last week.

Strong winds and flash floods caused by Typhoon Lionrock have killed more than 130 people, destroyed tens of thousands of homes and crippled infrastructure in North Korea's northern tip, according to officials in Pyongyang, the capital, and international aid organizations.

Workers in hard hats and

rubber boots used shovels and formed lines on Friday to hand-remove rocks and rubble from flooded areas in Onsong County, where damage was severe, and tried to clear twisted railroad tracks so work could begin to repair them.

A U.N. report issued by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said the floods displaced tens of thousands of people and destroyed homes, buildings and critical infrastructure.

The U.N. report said the government has confirmed 133 people were killed and another 395 were missing. It said more than 35,500 houses, schools and public buildings were damaged, with 69 percent completely destroyed. It

reported widespread inundation of farmland.

North Korean media said it was the worst single case of downpours and high winds since 1945, though that claim couldn't be verified.

Patrick Fuller, Asia Pacific spokesman for the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, which is on the ground in the affected area, said about 140,000 people are in urgent need of help, including food, water and shelter.

He said that in some villages virtually every building has been partially or completely destroyed, with watermarks on some buildings above head level, indicating how inundated some of the villages were by the waters.

Militants in southern PH free Norwegian hostage

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Abu Sayyaf extremists on Saturday freed a Norwegian man kidnapped a year ago in the southern Philippines with two Canadians who were later beheaded and a Filipino woman who has been released by the ransom-seeking militants, officials said.

Kjartan Sekkingstad was freed in Patikul town in Sulu province and was eventually secured by rebels from the larger Moro National Liberation Front, which has signed a peace deal with the government and helped negotiate his release, Philippine government officials said.

Sekkingstad, held in jungle captivity since being kid-

napped last September, was to stay overnight at the house of Moro National Liberation Front chairman Nur Misuari in Sulu and then be flown to the southern city of Davao on Sunday to meet with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, said Jesus Dureza, who advises Duterte on peace talks with insurgent groups.

A plan to fly the freed hostage out of Sulu, a jungle-clad Muslim region about 950 kilometers (590 miles) south of Manila, on Saturday was scrapped because of bad weather, Dureza said.

Dureza said that when he spoke on the phone with Sekkingstad, the Norwe-

gian expressed his gratitude to Duterte.

It was not immediately clear whether Sekkingstad had been ransomed off. Duterte suggested in a news conference last month that 50 million pesos (\$1 million) had been paid to the militants, but that they continued to hold on to him. The military said Saturday that relentless assaults forced the extremists to release the hostage.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Borge Brende confirmed Sekkingstad's release and said he was in contact with Dureza. Borge said he was told that Sekkingstad would be likely handed over to the Philippine authorities on Sunday.

Uri town close to the highly militarized line of control dividing the disputed Himalayan region between India and Pakistan. The militants used guns and grenades to target the soldiers who returned gunfire.

Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi to get humanitarian award

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee) of Myanmar will be honored as the 2016 humanitarian of the year by students and faculty at the Harvard Foundation. Suu Kyi gained international prominence as the General Secretary of the newly formed National League for Democracy in Myanmar in 1990. She became one of the world's most well-known political prisoners during her 15 years of house arrest for participating in anti-government protests. Her country later supported her, and she was appointed to the newly created position of state counselor, which is similar to prime minister. The 1991 Nobel Peace Prize Committee praised her for her "non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights." She will receive the foundation's Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian Award during a ceremony Saturday.

World

World leaders to focus on refugee crisis, Syria at UN

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—World leaders meeting at the United Nations starting Monday will be trying to make progress on two intractable problems at the top of the global agenda—the biggest refugee crisis since World War II and the Syrian conflict now in its sixth year that has claimed over 300,000 lives.

Against a backdrop of rising ethnic and religious tension, fighting elsewhere in the Mideast and Africa, extremist attacks across the world and a warming planet, there are plenty of other issues for the 135 heads of state and government and more than 50 ministers expected to attend to try to tackle.

"It's no secret there's a lot of fear out there," U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power told reporters Thursday, citing the uncertainties sparked by Britain's vote to leave the European Union, the threat posed by the Islamic State



In this Monday, Sept. 28, 2015 file photo, United States President Barack Obama addresses the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters.

extremist group, and attacks in many parts of the world by IS and others.

But Syria, where a tense cease-fire brokered by Moscow and Washington went into effect last Monday, remains at the top of the agenda at the U.N. General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting. An apparently errant airstrike on Saturday in

which the U.S. military may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against the Islamic State group could deal a crushing blow to the U.S.-Russian-brokered cease-fire. The cease-fire, which does not apply to attacks on IS, has largely held for five days despite dozens of alleged violations on both sides.

Egypt freezes assets of leading rights campaigners

CAIRO (AP)—An Egyptian court on Saturday upheld a decision to freeze the assets of several prominent human rights campaigners in the latest blow to a once-vibrant activist community that has been largely silenced by a government crackdown.

The five activists named in the court ruling include Gamal Eid and investigative reporter Hossam Bahgat, also the founder of a key rights group. The ruling also froze the assets of prominent rights campaigners Bahey eldin Hassan, Mustafa el-Hassan and Abdel-Hafiz Tayel along with the assets of the groups they lead.

The five face charges of illegally receiving foreign funds and using them to harm national security. If convicted, they could face up to 25 years in prison.

"We can live under threat, but we will not collude with a police state that despises human rights, the January revolution and democracy," Eid, one of the five, wrote on his Facebook account after the verdict, referring to the 2011 uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak.

He later told The Associated Press that the ruling was politicized and sent a message to civil society campaigners to

toe the line or else.

"Today, the law took the day off," he said.

Authorities have waged a wide-ranging crackdown on dissent since the 2013 military overthrow of Mohammed Morsi, an elected Islamist president.

Authorities have jailed thousands of people, mainly Islamists but also leading secular and liberal activists behind the 2011 uprising. Rights groups say the current government led by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who as army chief led Morsi's overthrow, is even more repressive than Mubarak's 29-year rule.

Residents begin returning to Iraq's Fallujah

BAGHDAD (AP)—Families have begun returning to Fallujah three months after the Iraqi city was declared fully liberated from the Islamic State group, an Iraqi official said Saturday.

Forty families were cleared to return after they passed background checks and their neighborhoods were deemed safe, Suhaib al-Rawi, governor of the western Anbar province, said.

In total 236 families returned Saturday to Fallujah and surrounding suburbs, his added. Fallujah, 40 miles (65 kilometers) west of Baghdad, had a pre-conflict population of more than 300,000 people.

Fallujah was declared "fully liberated" in late June after a monthlong operation by Iraqi forces aided by U.S.-led airstrikes. Fallujah had been the first Iraqi city to fall to IS, in January 2014.

The nearby city of Ramadi was also retaken from IS earlier this year, but remains largely uninhabitable due to destruction caused by the fighting and explosives left behind by IS.

More than a hundred civilians were killed by explosives planted by IS in Ramadi as they initially tried to return. Iraqi authorities then began turning many people away for safety reasons.

"Today's homecoming ended up being far less of a tidal wave of returnees than we had hoped," said Jeremy Courtney, the founder of an aid group active in Anbar called Preemptive Love.

"We had prepared welcome home food and supplies for 1,200 people," he added.

IS still controls the northern city of Mosul, Iraq's second largest. Iraqi leaders hope to take it back this year, but those plans could be delayed by preparations for a parallel humanitarian operation. The U.N. says up to a million civilians could flee Mosul once the push to retake the city begins.

ASIAN BRIEFS

28 dead, 15 missing after typhoon lashes eastern China

BEIJING (AP)—The strongest typhoon to hit China this year has left 28 people dead and 15 others missing in the east of the country. Typhoon Meranti made landfall early Thursday in Fujian province after winds and rains associated with it pounded Taiwan, leaving one person dead and more than 50 injured. Authorities in Fujian said Saturday that the typhoon had left 18 people dead and 11 missing, damaged more than 18,300 houses and caused direct economic losses of more than 16.9 billion yuan (\$2.5 billion). Authorities in neighboring Zhejiang province say that 10 people died and four remained unaccounted for following landslides and flash floods in rural areas.

17 soldiers dead in Indian army base attack in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—A top army officer says 17 soldiers and 4 rebels have been killed in a deadly attack on a key army base in Indian-controlled Kashmir. Sunday's attack is the biggest in the troubled region in recent years. The attack came early Sunday when at least four rebels sneaked into the sprawling army camp in

Later bedtimes for tots can lead to weight problems as teens



A child sleeping in a bed at an early time.

TNS

By **ALLIE SHAH**
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Benjamin Franklin may have been on to something when he prescribed “early to bed” for better health.

This could be especially true in the ongoing fight against childhood obesity. A recent study found that preschoolers who went to bed after 8 p.m. had a significantly higher risk of becoming obese teenagers than those with earlier bedtimes.

Led by researchers at Ohio State University, the study, published in the *Journal of Pediatrics*, followed 977 chil-

dren from ages 4.5 to 15 years, asking their parents what time they typically were put to bed on the weekdays. Bedtimes ranged from 6:45 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., with the most common times being 8 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9 p.m.

The scientists also examined the children’s height, weight and body mass index as teenagers.

“Pre-school-aged children with early weekday bedtimes were half as likely as those with late bedtimes to become obese as adolescents,” the researchers wrote.

In fact, only 10 percent of the children who were put to

bed by 8 p.m. were obese later, the study said. But 23 percent of the late-nighters (those who went to bed after 9 p.m.) became obese teenagers.

While it’s unclear exactly how children’s bedtimes affect body weight, other studies have found that a lack of sleep is linked to hormones that regulate appetite and metabolism. Staying up late also increases opportunities to snack after dinner.

As work and school schedules get busier, it’s a bigger challenge to establish early bedtimes, the study noted.

“For young children, parents create the routines that allow children to obtain sufficient sleep to meet their physi-

ologic needs. However, in establishing young children’s bedtimes, like other household routines, parents must often make compromises as they face competing time demands,” the authors wrote.

“For example, some parents’ work schedules do not allow them to arrive home early enough in the evening to spend time with their child and also maintain an early bedtime. This may push chil-

dren’s bedtimes later.

“At the same time, early bedtimes are required for adequate night sleep if children must wake to accommodate their parents’ work or siblings’ school start times.”

FOURTH YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

BARRY ALLEN HIRSHBEIN

December 10, 1948 – September 19, 2012



To Barry – husband, father, son, friend, soldier, colleague.

Barry – may you rest in eternal peace.

From your many friends and family who miss your smiling presence

Pneumonia symptoms

Anyone can get pneumonia. It's commonly a complication of a respiratory infection — especially the flu. Pneumonia symptoms can vary from mild to severe, depending on the type of pneumonia you have, and your age and health.

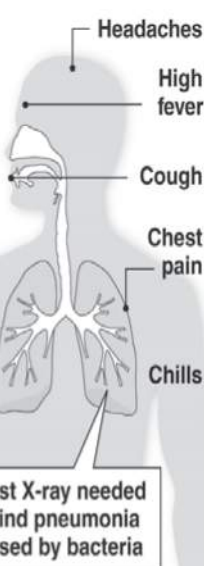
Common symptoms of pneumonia:

- Cough (with some pneumonias you may cough up greenish or yellow mucus, or even bloody mucus)
- Fever, which may be mild or high
- Shaking chills
- Shortness of breath, which may only occur when you climb stairs

Additional symptoms may include:

- Sharp or stabbing chest pain that gets worse when you breathe deeply or cough
- Headache
- Excessive sweating and clammy skin
- Confusion, especially in older people

Source: American Lung Association
Graphic: Staff, TNS



Symptoms also can vary, depending on whether your pneumonia is bacterial or viral.

• In bacterial pneumonia, your temperature may rise as high as 105 degrees F. This pneumonia causes profuse sweating, and rapidly increased breathing and pulse rate.

• The initial symptoms of viral pneumonia are the same as influenza symptoms: fever, a dry cough, headache, muscle pain and weakness. Within 12 to 36 hours, there is increasing breathlessness.

Back in God's loving embrace



Sr. Antonieta C. Ada, MMB

April 24, 1934 – September 15, 2016



As a young girl with parents and aunt



The Mercedarian Sisters would like to share the sudden return to the Lord of our dear Sr. Antonieta Cepeda Ada, MMB. We would invite you to pray with us for her eternal rest, especially on Tuesday, September 20 from 8-10:30 AM when there will be viewing at Kristo Rai Church followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM, and the final interment at the Maturana Cemetery, Navy Hill.

In addition to her Mercedarian Sisters worldwide, especially those in the Mission Area of Micronesia, her Saipan family is also remembered: Her deceased Parents: †Judge Juan Martinez Ada and †Ana Cepeda; and Brothers/Sisters & Spouses: †Francisco and †Rosalia Ada, †Maria and †Francisco Flores, †Vicente and †Dolores Ada; as well as surviving nephews, their spouses & families: Joseph and Ida Ada, Peter Alexis and Mae Ada.

In lieu of flowers, a contribution to “MMB Retirement” for the care of the other retired sisters is greatly appreciated.

“But I in justice shall behold your face; on waking, I shall be content in your presence.” (Ps. 17:15)

Life & Style

Snoop Dogg honored in politically charged BET Hip-Hop Awards

ATLANTA (AP)—Snoop Dogg said he initially felt misunderstood at the beginning of his rap career that ended up turning into a legendary one while accepting his “I Am Hip Hop” honor during a politically-charged BET Hip-Hop Awards show near Atlanta.

Rapper Kendrick Lamar surprised attendees Saturday evening by introducing and handing Snoop the award during the 11th annual awards, which was taped. Lamar, in front of a packed crowd at the Cobb Energy Performing Centre, said the ultra-smooth West Coast rapper “paved a way into many hearts” with his authentic rap flow and infectious persona.

Hip-hop royalty from Dr. Dre to Pharrell Williams paid homage to Snoop, a legend in his own right.

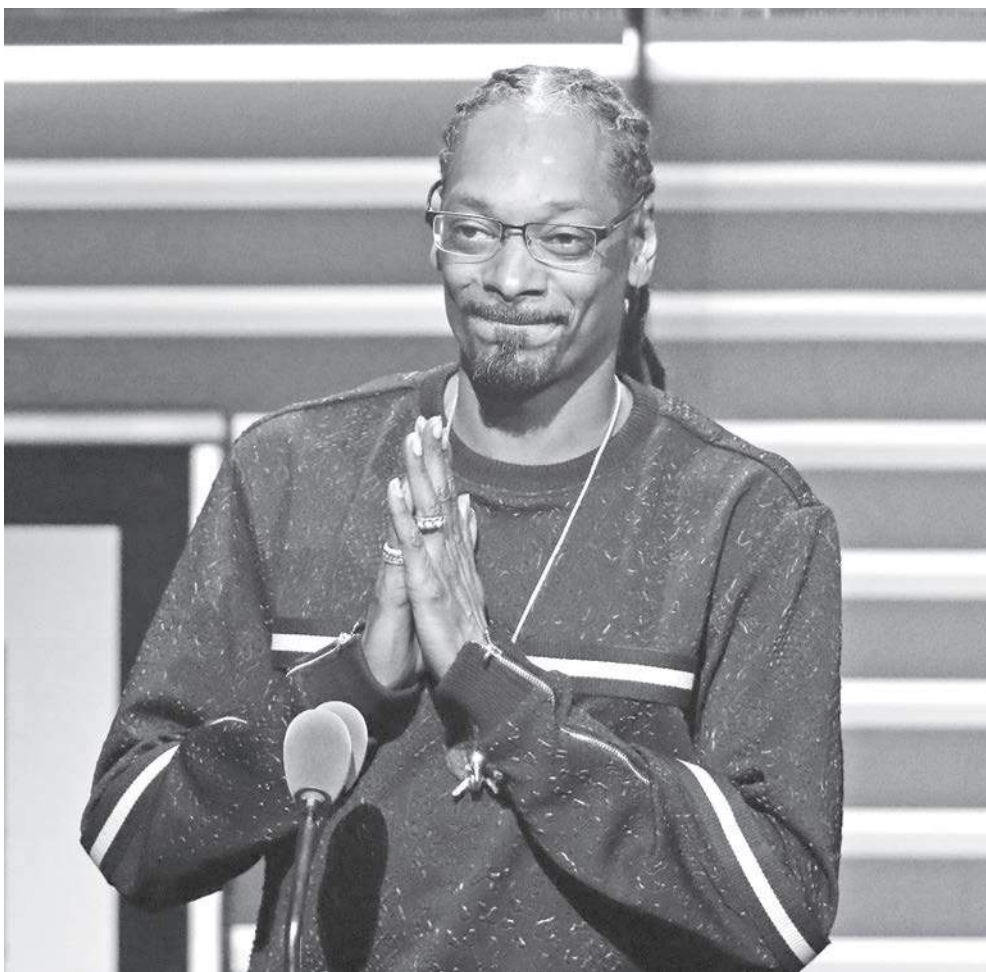
“He mastered the game through tests and challenges that earned him the respect of a college professor, except his game came from the streets,” Lamar said. “He put (me) on game, so I would avoid the same pitfalls. ... Snoop Dogg was the God, and continues to be so.”

During his acceptance speech, Snoop encouraged up-and-coming rappers to continue to “push the envelope” in being creative and original.

“To all the young rappers in the game, a lot of people don’t understand you. Y’all are misunderstood,” he said. “I was misunderstood at the beginning. So you got to keep pushing, be original and diverse. Hip-hop was created many years ago and it’s taken people so many places. You have to be who you are.”

When Snoop Dogg wasn’t being honored, the show focused its attention toward police brutality of African-Americans.

Wearing all black, T.I. performed his politically-charged song “We Will Not” as a stage full of people sporting dark attire held up “Black Lives Matter” signs. The rapper said he was motivated to write the song after hearing about a series of deaths of black people including Sandra Bland, who died while in police lockup after a traffic stop, and Philando Castile who was fatally shot by police during a traffic stop.



AP
Snoop Dogg speaks while being honored with the “I Am Hip Hop” award at the BET Hip-Hop Awards in Atlanta, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016.

ems and radio host Sway Calloway stood alongside Khaled and said “we’re at war.” Actor Shameik Moore encouraged people to cast their vote.

T.I. said at the end of his performance that blacks should unite adding that “they can’t kill us all.”

Before the show, Snoop said it felt “amazing” to be honored by the network. He broke through under the guidance of hit maker Dr. Dre, releasing his 1993 debut album “Doggystyle,” which featured iconic songs including “Gin and Juice” and “What’s My Name?”

“He means so much to hip-hop,” rapper Young Jeezy said. “There are so many who look up to him. He paved a way for so many, and that’s why everybody knows him as Uncle Snoop.”

Trump criticized for bait and switch on ‘birther’ statement

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump’s renouncement of birtherism came with some media gamesmanship that compelled television news networks to air 20 minutes of endorsements by retired military men before the candidate briefly got to the point.

“We all got Rick-rolled,” said CNN’s Jake Tapper, a reference to the Internet prank of replacing an expected link with a video of singer Rick Astley’s 1987 hit, “Never Gonna Give You Up.”

The bad blood continued after the Friday morning event when the Trump campaign barred text reporters and a television producer from joining him on a tour of the new Trump International



Hotel in Washington. In response, cable and broadcast networks refused to use any video of the tour.

Castile was licensed to carry and had a firearm in his car.

Rapper Big K.R.I.T. and

Lecrae, a Christian rapper, expressed their thoughts on the matter through their own po-

AP
In this Aug. 22, 2106 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump meets with active and retired law enforcement in Akron, Ohio.

Obama’s eligibility for the presidency—resurfaced with a Washington Post interview on Thursday where Trump would not say whether or not he believed the president was born in Hawaii in 1961.

With criticism of his birther movement starting anew, Trump’s campaign signaled that the candidate would address the issue Friday at a Washington event. When Trump stepped to the podium at 11:04 a.m. EDT, he was carried live on CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC.

Trump’s long-expressed doubts that Obama was born in the United States—despite a birth certificate proving

For nominees, Emmy Day can be a break from calorie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Given what the cameras add, Hollywood stars start out some 10 pounds behind the game. Little wonder so many actors are serious weight watchers.

But even those most diligent about diet and exercise give in to temptation on occasion, with Emmy day—this Sunday—being a likely contender. Chances are, for many Emmy nominees, something wickedly caloric their way will come.

Friday night in West Hollywood, the Television Academy threw its annual weekend-of bash for performer nominees, who revealed Emmy-day plans from wakeup time.

“Sunday morning, I’m going to try to eat,” said Keegan-Michael Key, a four-time nominee this year, including outstanding supporting actor in a comedy series for the sketch show “Key & Peele.”

“It might be the only time I eat a full meal all day,” he ex-

plained. “So, I like to go and eat something bad. Like IHOP. Or figure out exactly the minute that In-N-Out opens, and go have an In-N-Out burger—like at 9:30 in the morning.”

Then comes the makeup—lots of makeup, Key noted as he pointed to his bald head. This happens at home.

“The makeup artist drinks wine. Girlfriend drinks wine. I drink wine. We all have our wine when we do the makeup, which you’d think would

screw it all up. It doesn’t. ... And then we get in our car and we get moving.”

Four-time nominee Felicity Huffman is already a 2005 Emmy winner for “Desperate Housewives” and, this year, has a second nod as lead actress in a limited series or movie for her role in “American Crime.” Since actor-husband William H. Macy has previously logged two wins, they’ve got this Emmy-day thing down.

Japan naming 88 manga, animation landmarks to boost tourism

TOKYO (AP)—Eighty-eight places in Japan are going to be designated “animation spots” to encourage visitors to seek out the train stations, school campuses, rural shrines and other fairly everyday places where popular “manga” characters are depicted.

Such landmarks number in the tens of thousands, given the popularity and volume of “manga” comics in Japan, but the project aims to compile the official list for any fan’s animation “pilgrimage,” as the places are known as “seichi,” or “sacred spots.”

Anyone can vote on the landmarks through a website set up in several languages, including English and Chinese.

“Japanese pop culture has grown to rival American Hollywood,” Tsugihiko Kadokawa, chairman of Kadokawa Corp. publisher and film studio, one of the officials behind the effort, said Friday at a Tokyo news conference. “Animation can change the times.”

The project highlights Japan’s push to make tourism a valuable boon for a stagnant economy, as dynamic as the export of Toyota vehicles and Sony electronics.

Foreign tourism has grown, under a “Cool Ja-

pan» initiative, reaching 20 million people last year—five years ahead of a goal set by the government, prompting officials to raise its 2020 target to 40 million tourists.

Kadokawa and other officials behind the newly formed Japan Anime Tourism Association said they would compile a travel route of 88 animation spots by December, including where manga and animation works took place, as well as the homes of manga artists and museums dedicated to their works.

Votes from fans will be considered in compiling the list. «Vote for the special spot you want to share with everyone,» the site says.

One shoo-in for the list, according to organizers, is Washinomiya Jinja, a picturesque shrine in Saitama prefecture on the outskirts of Tokyo, a familiar scene in comics by Kagami Yoshimizu, which later became a TV animation series, «Lucky Star» or «Raki Suta.»

The shrine is not as grand or famous as others in the country, such as Meiji Shrine in central Tokyo, but it’s still the one to visit for those who love the manga series, which depicts friendship among schoolgirls, all illustrated with the huge eyes and colorful hair characteristic of manga.

Rapper Coolio arrested after loaded gun found at LA airport

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Authorities say rapper Coolio has been arrested after a loaded firearm was found in a carry-on bag during security screening at Los Angeles International Airport.

LAX police were alerted Saturday morning by the Transportation Security Ad-

ministration and detained a man who claimed the bag was his.

Airport police Officer Alicia Hernandez says an investigation found the bag contained items that belonged to the man's traveling companion who passed through the screening area and boarded an

aircraft.

Officers found the other man, later identified as Coolio, and booked him on suspicion of possession of a firearm by a felon. He was booked as 53-year-old Artis Leon Ivey Jr. of Las Vegas.

The man with the carry-on bag was released.

Coolio is best known for his 1995 hit "Gangsta's Paradise." A call to his manager hasn't been returned.

AP
This Thursday, June 25, 2015 photo shows Coolio at the 2015 ASCAP Rhythm & Soul Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif. O



Dramatic 'Mr. Church' lures Eddie Murphy back to the screen

LOS ANGELES (AP)—You would think that being a comic legend, an Oscar-nominee and starring in some of Hollywood's greatest blockbusters would mean having an abundance of scripts to choose from.

But Eddie Murphy says part of the reason he hasn't made many movies in recent years is because he hasn't been asked a lot.

"I don't usually get offered stuff," the 55-year-old said in a recent interview.

So when he got sent the

dramatic script for "Mr. Church," where Murphy plays a caretaker who bonds with a struggling family, he couldn't resist.

"Wow, I get to work with a great Murphy director and good actors," Murphy recalled thinking.

The fact that it only took 27 days to shoot was a lure too, particularly since he's the new father to his ninth child, four-month-old Izzy



Oona Murphy.

"It was like a really easy movie to go to and everybody was really cool, so I just went and did it, then I went back to the hammock in the backyard," Murphy said.

"Mr. Church," which opened nationwide on Friday, is Murphy's first film in four years. While he's been spending plenty of downtime at home with his family, he hasn't been

completely idle; he's been doing music and last year released a hit reggae single "Oh Jah Jah." He has also been coming up with ideas for what he describes as one last comedy tour: "The Last Laugh."

Iran nominates Farhadi's "The Salesman" for 2017 Oscar

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran has nominated a film by the country's Oscar-winning director Asghar Farhadi for the next Academy Awards.

The Saturday report says the Farabi Foundation, affiliated to Iran's Culture Ministry, chose "The Salesman," which

won two prizes at the Cannes film festival in May.

Lead actor Shahab Hosseini won a Palme d'Or for best actor and Farhadi won the award for best screenplay.

The movie is about a pair of actors rehearsing for a performance of Arthur Miller's

"Death of a Salesman." The couple's lives are upended when the woman is mistaken for a prostitute and sexually assaulted.

In 2012, Farhadi received Iran's first Oscar when "A Separation" won best foreign film.

Label let Frank Ocean out of contract early

NEW YORK (AP)—Even before Frank Ocean released his albums "Endless" and "Blonde" on Apple Music last month, he and his label decided the relationship was over.

A person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press that Ocean's label, Def Jam, decided to let the singer out of his contract early because the relationship between the singer and the label was like a "bad marriage." The person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the person was not allowed to publicly speak about the topic, did not say how many albums Ocean was con-

tracted for, but added that "it wasn't going to work out."

"He didn't want to be on a label. He wanted to do his own thing," the person said.

Representatives for Ocean didn't respond to emails seeking comment and a rep Def Jam declined to comment.

Ocean, one of the most heralded young artists of the last few years, released the Grammy-winning "channel ORANGE" on Def Jam in 2012, marking his debut as an act on the label, also home to Kanye West,



Rihanna and Justin Bieber, among others.

But it took years for the follow-up to be released. While fans were antsy, behind the scenes, the relationship between the label and Ocean got fractious—so much so both parties decided that Ocean's next album would be his last, according to the person.

"I'm sure there was some kind of negotiation in order for him to get out of the contract if there were remaining commitments on the contract," the person said.

Ben Stiller and Alek Wek stand with refugees

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Actor Ben Stiller and supermodel Alek Wek are standing with refugees.

Stiller and Wek visited the U.N. General Assembly on Friday to present Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon with a petition bearing over 1.3 million signatures, calling on governments to act with solidarity and shared responsibility for the world's 21.3 million refugees.

"I'm honored to be here today to share the petition that people all over the world have

signed showing support for refugees," Stiller said.

"Every day war forces thousands of families to flee their homes. Families like yours, families like mine to escape violence and leave everything behind, everything except for hopes and dreams for a safer future. We believe all refugees deserve a right to protection and live in safety," Stiller added, reading from the petition.

Wek, a goodwill ambassador for the U.N. Refugee Agency who herself was forced to flee her home in

what is now South Sudan at age nine, said she wouldn't be where she is today if not for the agency's work.

"I know what it's like to lose everything, to desperately search for safety and shelter to be separated from my family members. I also know the joy of being welcomed to a new community, to getting back into education, to being able to work and fulfill my potential and give back. This is why we're here today to call for solutions for all refugees," she said.

Daughter with resentful mom must create firm boundaries

DEAR ABBY: I am 32, married for a year and a half, with no children yet. I am an only child who was raised by my mother until I was 14 because my father was in prison. My mother never remarried. She blames me for her never having found anyone, and she is resentful of my marriage. She doesn't get along with anyone, not family, co-workers or "friends."

She thinks my husband is her handyman to use around her house. The reality is, my husband works all the time, and when he does have any free time, I either want to spend it with him or need him to do things around our home. I'm afraid the day I tell her I'm pregnant her response will be laced with disdain and judgment, and I believe she will use my children as pawns like she used me to manipulate my dad.

I have seen a therapist about this, but I'm having a hard time following through on what needs to be done. My therapist suggests I tell Mom how I feel and let her know that if she continues with her current behavior, I will have to limit the amount of time we see each other.

Abby, she has said some really hurtful things to me in the past. I know her behavior is wrong, but I continue trying to be the daughter I am supposed to be so we can hopefully have the relationship we are supposed to have. I welcome your advice.

HAD ENOUGH IN GEORGIA

DEAR HAD ENOUGH: Here it is, and I cannot offer it

emphatically enough. You hired a therapist who has given you excellent advice. You will save yourself a lot of grief—and time—if you take to heart what you were told and follow the advice you were given. To create boundaries is not being a bad daughter; it is being an intelligent one.

DEAR ABBY: I'm currently interning with a government-contracted group. Part of my job involves working with LGBT rights organizations. Recently, at a meeting with my boss and several representatives of these organizations, the topic of fairness in the workplace was mentioned. I was asked what my experience was, and I shared that I thought the workplace was fair, and my experience was fine.

I didn't think about it at the time, but I now realize I was being asked how my experience was as an LGBT person. In light of this, my boss has nominated me for a diversity award. The problem is I'm a heterosexual female, and I think he promoted me for the honor because he thinks I am gay.

How should I handle this? Do I need to go on record to my boss that I am straight, that I have a boyfriend, and he misunderstood me? I don't want this to come back to haunt me, but I'm afraid addressing it may ruin my credibility because it has taken so long for me to address it. My sexual orientation is obviously not something of great interest at work, but I feel I am living a terrible lie, and I don't know how to fix this.

ASHAMED IN D.C.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



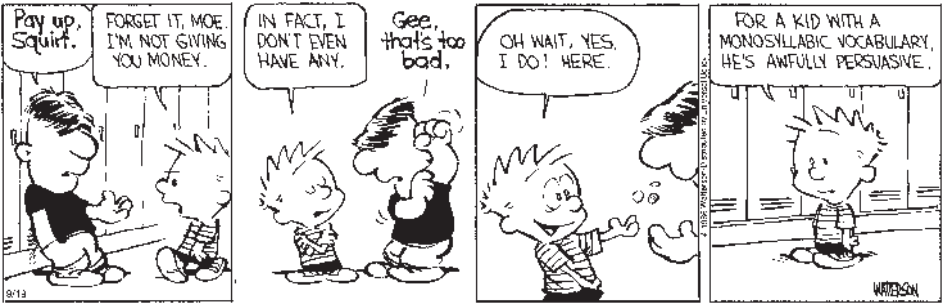
DEAR ASHAMED: No one should feel compelled to disclose one's sexual orientation at work, no matter the circumstances. That said, in this particular case, go to your boss before this goes any further. Explain to him privately that you didn't realize when the question was asked that anyone would presume you were gay. If you accept the diversity award without clearing the air first, it could potentially be a source of embarrassment and jeopardize your credibility.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

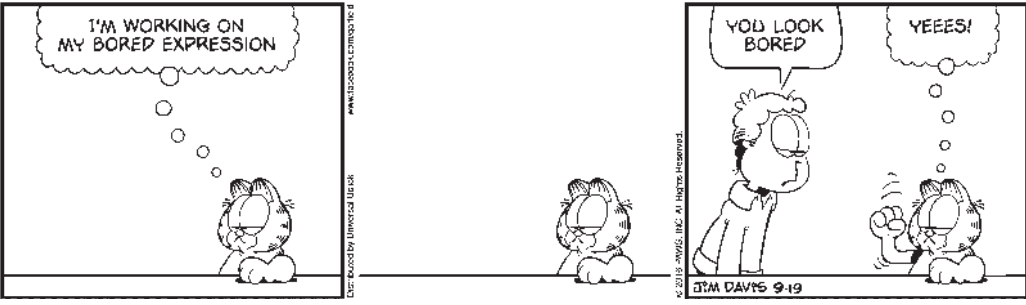
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



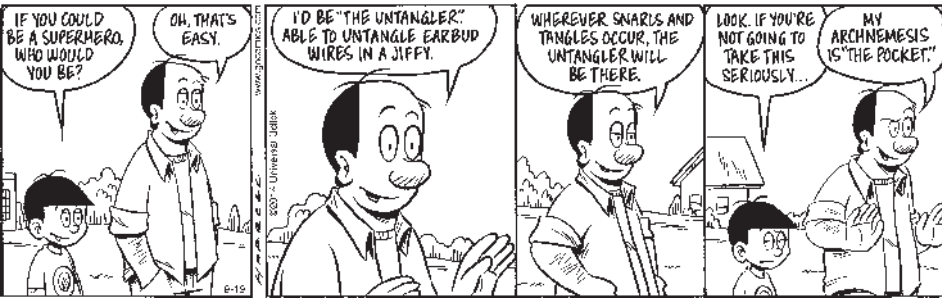
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Inside info, slangily

5 —pah band

8 Play parts

12 Finnish capital

14 Stead

15 "Jaws" star Richard

16 Fem. counter-part

17 "Survivor" ailer

18 Suave

20 Suspi-cious

23 — impasse

24 Outside (Pref.)

25 German city

28 Pro vote

29 Pizzazz

30 Cistern

32 Coats with flour

34 Give up

35 Disposition

36 Eco-friendly

37 Season-ed vet

40 — Moines

41 Repast

42 In reverie

47 Within (Pref.)

48 Bliss

49 Inquisitive

50 Gym unit

51 Vend

3 World Cup cheer

4 Hitch-cock classic

5 Burden

6 Approves

7 Blunders

8 Candy bar nut

9 "Arrive-derci!"

10 Try out

11 Stuff like that

13 "One — land ..."

19 Pulverize potatoes

20 Tina of "30 Rock"

21 On the rocks

22 Lumi-nary

23 Ready to fight

25 Well-meaning

26 Always

27 Zilch

29 Blood-hound's clue

31 Cowboy's nick-name

33 Hire

34 Carl Sagan series

36 Wife of Jacob

37 Portent

38 Fallon predecessor

39 June honorees

40 Actor Johnny

43 Paris street

44 Rage

45 Zero

46 Lass

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 9-19

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kevin Zegers, 32; Alison Sweeney, 40; Jimmy Fallon, 42; Trisha Yearwood, 52.

Happy Birthday: Let your intuition guide you where money, health and legal issues are concerned. Staying on top of your responsibilities will free up your time, allowing you to explore some of the alterations you want to incorporate into your life. Take the initiative and do your best to upgrade your standard of living. Your numbers are 2, 10, 17, 24, 31, 33, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Change can be good if brought about the right way and for the right reasons. Work alongside the person your choices will affect the most. A short trip will turn into a worthwhile experience. Romance is encouraged. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Say what's on your mind and you'll feel at ease moving forward. It's up to you to make the moves that will position you for success. Don't wait for someone else to go first. Do your best to be a good leader. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An offer will not be as good as you think. Consider how you can move forward on your own. A change in the way you appear to others will benefit you professionally. Strive for perfection. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't follow the crowd. Someone will use emotional manipulation to talk you into making a donation or trying a new product that

promises the impossible. Stick close to home and pay attention to the people you trust. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A change in the way you do things at home or at work will make a difference to the way others view you. A romantic gesture will bring you closer to someone special. Make an effort to get physically fit. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on what's important to you. Use your persuasive charm to get others to see things your way. Learn from past experiences. Don't argue when reason and diplomacy will give you the edge you need to make things happen. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Participate and learn as you go. Opportunities are apparent if you are willing to make physical changes to the way you live. An important relationship will be rejuvenated if you participate in couples' events and activities. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Trust your judgment when it comes to helping others. Your dedicated sense of justice will help you remain centered and in control of whatever you take on. Your creative imagination will lead to positive solutions. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Just when you think you have everything under control, something will change and you'll have to start all over again. It's better to be safe than sorry. Do your own fact-finding. Someone will aim to confuse you. **

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Keep your life simple and your dealings with others precise and to the point. Focus on your personal finances and emotional well-being. Home improvements will add to your comfort and ease your stress. Avoid unpredictable people. ****



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let your emotions sway you. Stick to the practical solutions that will encourage you to make positive changes within your budget. You can gain ground if you work relentlessly toward the goals you set. Personal improvements are encouraged. **



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional blackmail will leave you bewildered. Ask questions before you give in to pressure. Someone may not have your best interests at heart. Protect against being taken advantage of, and take care of your own needs first. **



Birthday Baby: You are playful, entertaining and insightful. You are practical and competitive. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

8	2	4	1			5	6	
5							4	
			5	3			1	
2		1		8				6
			9		7			
3				1		2		5
	9		7		6			
	3							9
8	6			1	3	5	4	

Difficulty Level ★ 9/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

8	4	5	7	1	9	6	3	2
6	1	2	3	8	4	5	9	7
7	3	9	6	5	2	4	8	1
5	8	7	9	2	6	3	1	4
4	6	3	5	7	1	9	2	8
9	2	1	4	3	8	7	5	6
3	5	8	2	4	7	1	6	9
2	9	4	1	6	5	8	7	3
1	7	6	8	9	3	2	4	5

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SUBWAYS OF THE WORLD

Solution: 11 letters

A	I	Y	A	I	F	O	S	A	N	T	I	A	G	O
M	M	T	B	U	S	A	N	I	L	L	E	D	E	M
S	A	A	B	I	C	O	R	M	E	U	M	C	I	
T	I	M	H	A	A	U	T	E	K	B	N	A	D	E
E	M	L	R	O	R	H	C	N	A	O	I	D	E	P
R	R	A	L	M	K	C	G	I	O	R	B	R	O	I
D	C	O	I	U	A	O	E	N	O	R	K	E	S	A
A	S	R	M	N	N	O	Y	L	A	Y	O	T	A	S
M	B	N	A	I	S	N	G	L	O	H	A	T	K	S
S	P	E	E	C	T	E	E	T	O	N	S	O	A	E
Z	A	R	I	H	S	L	O	W	B	N	A	R	L	P
R	R	M	O	J	T	U	A	U	Y	N	D	I	L	A
M	I	L	A	N	I	A	L	B	L	O	L	O	I	D
O	S	L	O	R	A	N	A	D	A	L	R	D	N	U
M	A	N	I	L	A	L	G	I	E	R	S	K	E	B

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P.O. Box 520064
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Tel. No. 670-484-1117
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Attorney for Petitioner Carl Dimitri Cruz Reyes

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE ESTATE OF) CIVIL CASE
) NO. 16-0107
Ursula Cruz Reyes,)
Deceased.) NOTICE OF HEARING
) ON PETITION FOR
) APPOINTMENT OF
) ADMINISTRATOR AND
) NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for Letters of Administration seeking the appointment of **Carl Dimitri Cruz Reyes** as Administrator for the Estate of **URSULA CRUZ REYES (Deceased)**, was filed in the above entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held on Friday, September 23, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Tinian Courthouse before Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

All persons having any objection to the petition, or having a claim against the Estate or against the deceased must file their respective claims with the Clerk of Court, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated this 16th day of September, 2016.

/s/ Deputy of Clerk of Court

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Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Take care of nursery plants, including propagation and maintenance, proper storage and use fertilizer, and proper storage and application of insecticides. Experience with propagation and care of orchids highly desirable, as well as experience with tropical plants and general nursery related duties. Minimum qualifications: 3 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

Position closes at 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 27, 2016.
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. A valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old is required with submission of the application. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

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Salary depending on experience.

Please email your resume and current Police Clearance to william.fife@mlsnet.org; or mail to P.O. Box 5551 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950.

Applications are being accepted until October 3, 2016.


MLSC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

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Perform all and/or any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. Computes and records charges, receipts, refunds, or similar items. Type vouchers, invoices, checks, account statements, reports, and other records, using typewriter or computer. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers. Reconcile or note and report discrepancies found in records. Perform other related duties as required or as assigned.

Requires: High School graduate or a GED Certificate. Some related work experience in tour operation, sales or service related work is preferred. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office applications such as Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel; and proficient with Accounting software such as the SAP-R3 FICO (Financial and Controlling) and POS-RMS (Point of Sale) systems to record, store, and analyze information. Flexible under pressure. High attention to detail. Able to work independently with detailed projects. Has an aptitude for learning. Must be able and willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications or resumes via email to gemkell_recruitment@tanholdings.com.
To be considered, resumes/application documents must be submitted not later than September 30, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Century Tours Office located on the ground floor of the Kanoa Resort.
Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

 **LAW REVISION COMMISSION**
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
JUDICIAL BRANCH
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Tel: (670) 236-9820 • Fax: (670) 236-9897 • E-Mail: cnmilaw@justice.gov.mp
<http://www.cnmilaw.org>

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING
Friday, September 23, 2016, 12:00 p.m.
Commonwealth Law Revision Commission Office
House of Justice/Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe
Susupe, Saipan

Agenda

- Preliminary Matters**
 - Call to Order and Roll Call
 - Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Government Act, 1 CMC § 9901 et seq.)
 - Final Approval of June 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- Executive Director's Report**
 - Office & Staff Updates
 - 2016 Products
 - Driver's Handbook
 - Website & Digital Products
 - LRC Budget
 - Professional Development
- Old Business**
- New Business**
- Tentative Date for Next Meeting and Adjournment**

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Sharper's Hall nomination causes national outcry



CANTON, Ohio (AP)—

The inclusion of former NFL safety and convicted rapist Darren Sharper on the Pro Football's Hall of Fame nomination list, shocked some people last weekend and has started a national debate over who should be eligible for induction.

Sharper, a five-time Pro Bowler, appeared on the list released Thursday because at least one Hall of Fame selector nominated Sharper. He also was nominated last year—before he pleaded guilty in a case in which he was accused of drugging and raping up to 16 women in four states. U.S. District Court Judge Jane Triche Milazzo sentenced him to 18 years in prison last month.

Hall of Fame spokesman Joe Horrigan explained that there is no character clause in the bylaws, which are approved by the Hall of Fame's board of directors. To be eligible for the nominating process, a player or coach must be retired for at least five years. Forty-eight voters nominate and select the players, coaches and contributors to appear on the ballot based solely on the contributions they have made to the sport, Horrigan said.

To make the first of several cuts, a candidate must be nominated by at least one selector. Horrigan said he didn't know who nominated Sharper



In this file photo, New Orleans Saints safety Darren Sharper stretches before practice at the University of Miami practice facility. His inclusion on this year's list of Hall of Fame nominees has created a national outcry. Sharper, a five-time Pro Bowler, pleaded guilty in 2015 to drugging and raping up to 16 women in four states.

this year or last, and that everyone must abide by the rules that are approved by the Hall's board of directors.

"We do have a committee that reviews the process every year, not just from that kind of question, but who can be elected, the number of selections we can have and how the system worked or if it could work better," Horrigan told The Associated Press on Friday. "So I would anticipate

this would always be part of the question. But I don't anticipate any groundswell (to change the rules) based on this one case."

Sharper, who won a Super Bowl with New Orleans in 2010 and also played for Green Bay and Minnesota, is not likely to be elected. But it's certainly not the first time the character question has been raised in regard to Hall of Fame selections.

One of the most notable honorees is O.J. Simpson, who has been incarcerated in Nevada for robbery and kidnapping for the past eight years following a 1995 acquittal on the infamous double-murder. Despite calls for his removal more than two decades ago, Simpson remains a member of pro football's most prestigious club.

And linebacker Lawrence Taylor, who has had a series of

run-ins with the law—mostly involving drugs or alcohol—also remains in the Hall of Fame. He pleaded guilty to charges of sexual misconduct

and patronizing a prostitute who was 16 years old. He was sentenced to six years of probation in 2011.

"We had to abide by our by-laws, and our bylaws do not have any provision for removal," Horrigan said, recalling the debate about Simpson. "That was probably the highest-profile case that caused us to have discussions on the incident. But ultimately our board voted that it had to be determined on how he played the game."

The public may not see it the same way. Fans and journalists expressed dismay with posts on Twitter on Friday.

"This is not a character flaw, however. This is something even Sharper described at his sentencing as 'heinous,'" Sporting News columnist Mike DeCourcy wrote after the nominees were released Thursday. "This is not someone who was mean to reporters or undermined his teammates or got in one too many bar fights. This is someone who has acknowledged he drugged women—notice the plural there—for the purpose of forcing himself on them while they were incapacitated."

Monty Williams returns to Spurs as VP of basketball ops



SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Monty Williams is the new vice president of basketball operations for the San Antonio Spurs, returning to the franchise he has already been part of as both a player and a coaching intern.

Williams appeared in 154 games with the Spurs between 1996 and 1998. He was a coaching intern with the team in the 2004-05 season, the first step on a path that would lead him to spend five seasons as an assistant in Portland, five years as a head coach in New Orleans and then an assistant again last season in Oklahoma City.

Williams has also been an assistant for the USA Basketball men's national team.

His hiring was one of several announced Friday by the Spurs, who also added Brian Wright as assistant general manager, Phil Cullen as director of basketball strategy, Pat Sund as a pro personnel scout, Nick Repole as director of basketball information systems and Landry Fields—who spent five years in the NBA as a player—as a college scout.

The Spurs also made a number of promotions, most notably Will Hardy being elevated from video coordinator to assistant coach.

Other promotions included

Andy Birdsong to director of pro player personnel, Brandon James to assistant general counsel and director of basketball administration, Dave Telep to director of scouting, Xavi Schelling is now the team's director of sports science and athletic performance, Niraj Mulji is the new basketball operations manager and Dutch Gaitley replaces Hardy as video coordinator.

In Milwaukee, former NBA player and UNLV star Stacey Augmon is joining the Bucks as an assistant coach.

Augmon was a member of the Bucks' coaching staff during the 2016 NBA Summer League in Las Vegas. He spent the past five years as an assistant at his alma mater. Augmon was also an assistant for the Denver Nuggets from 2007-11.

Augmon's playing career started after he was drafted with the ninth overall pick in the 1991 draft by Atlanta. In 16 years in the NBA, Augmon also played for Detroit, Portland, Charlotte and Orlando.

The Bucks on Friday also announced two other moves.

Seth Partnow was named director of basketball research. He was most recently an editor for a basketball statistical analysis website.

Scott Faust has been named head athletic trainer.

No. 1 pick Goff will be Rams' backup QB vs Seahawks



THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP)—Jared Goff is one step closer to the field for the

Los Angeles Rams.

The No. 1 overall draft pick will be the Rams' backup quarterback Sunday, putting him in uniform for the first time in his rookie season.

Coach Jeff Fisher made the announcement Friday after Los Angeles' final practice for its home opener against Seattle.

"He's ready to play," Fisher said. "He got some reps throughout the week. (It's) good for him. It's exciting for him, just knowing that he's a snap away from going into the game. He was here until the wee hours (Thursday) night preparing, as he should."

Goff was the inactive third-stringer for the Rams' 28-0 loss at San Francisco in their season opener Monday. Sean Mannion served as the backup to Case Keenum, who went 17 for 35 for 130 yards with two interceptions.

Keenum is still the starter, but Fisher said the team is

confident Goff would be ready to play. Fisher hasn't decided whether he'll switch the backup job between Goff and Mannion again next week, saying he'll wait to see how the weekend goes.

Goff was told about the decision earlier in the week.

"I've just been preparing the same way I've been preparing," Goff said.

While Philadelphia's Carson Wentz and Dallas' Dak Prescott started in last week's openers as rookies, Goff watched the opener in street clothes. He hasn't stopped studying and learning with the Rams, who obviously expect the former California star to be their starter in the near future.

Goff went 22 for 49 with two touchdown passes and two interceptions in the preseason with the Rams, who had the NFL's worst offense last season. After the preseason finale, Fisher said Goff wasn't ready to be the backup to Keenum, who easily kept the starting job he won late last season from Nick Foles.

Goff has practiced with the first-team offense more frequently this week, something he also did during training camp.

"I don't feel like I need too many (practice opportunities) to go in there and play right now," Goff said. "I'd like to have as many as possible, but whatever they do is their decision. ... It's faster, obviously, when the preseason goes to regular season. It's still football, though. Just try to keep it simple."

While Goff has been calm and supportive of Keenum throughout his first NFL quarterback derby, he hasn't been a backup for six years, since early in his sophomore year of high school in Marin County.

"I just prepare the same way every week," Goff said. "It can happen any time. Obviously going to support Case, but anything can happen. I'll be ready when my number is called."

If Keenum doesn't improve from Week 1, that number could be called quickly. He blamed himself afterward for the loss to the 49ers, saying he

overthought the game.

"As an offense, we need to trust him," offensive coordinator Rob Boras said. "We need to trust what we see, not overthink it. Trust our coaching. Trust our vision. Trust our instincts and play."

The only team that managed fewer yards than the Rams' 185 during the opening week was Buffalo, which fired offensive coordinator Greg Roman on Friday after a second offensive clunker against the New York Jets on Thursday night.

Boras probably doesn't need to be worried about his job security, however. He only took over the Rams' offense last December with four games left in the 2015 season—and one of those games was a rainy road victory over the Seahawks.

"Didn't see it coming," Boras said of the Rams' struggles at San Francisco. "I think, across the board, coaches (and) players would say that we thought we had a great week of preparation and then obviously just didn't live up to our standard."

Red Sox top Yankees, extend AL East lead



BOSTON
(AP)—Xander Bogaerts hom-

ered, doubled twice and drove in three runs, and Mookie Betts hit a tying single before scoring the go-ahead run in Boston's third straight win over New York.

Hanley Ramirez also had three hits for the AL East-leading Red Sox (84-64), who improved to three games ahead of Toronto and Baltimore.

New York (77-70) wasted 3-0 and 5-2 leads and lost for the sixth time in seven games. The Yankees are four games back in the wild-card race.

Second baseman Starlin Castro left in the fifth inning after straining his right hamstring while rounding first base on a double. Rookie Gary Sanchez hit his 15th home run since his Aug. 3 recall from the minors, a two-run drive.

Indians 1, Tigers 0, 10 innings

In Cleveland, Carlos Carrasco, Cleveland's No. 2 starting pitcher, broke his right hand when hit by a line drive off the bat of Detroit's Ian Kinsler on the second pitch the Indians' victory.

Cleveland, which opened an eight-game lead over second-place Detroit, said Carrasco sustained a non-displaced fracture of his pitching hand. The Indians did not provide a timetable for his recovery.

Cardinals 3, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Kolten Wong hit a sacrifice fly to cap a two-run comeback in the ninth inning and St. Louis rallied for a big win in its playoff chase.

The Cardinals had lost three straight and held a team meeting prior to the game. Their win further tightened the NL wild-card race -- San Francisco and the Mets are tied for the top two spots, with the Cardinals trailing by two games.

Mets 3, Twins 2, 12 innings

In New York, Curtis Granderson hit a solo home run with two outs in the 12th inning after also connecting for a tying shot in the 11th, lifting the New York Mets into a tie for the NL wild-card lead.

The Mets are even with San Francisco, with St. Louis two games back.

Before the game, New York announced that star pitcher Jacob deGrom is likely done for the season with elbow trouble.

Brewers 11, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Ryan Braun went deep twice to reach 30 homers for the sixth time, Chris Carter hit a grand slam off the Wrigley Field video board and Mil-



Boston Red Sox's Mookie Betts (50) steals second base as New York Yankees' Starlin Castro gets the throw during the first inning of a baseball game in Boston, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016.

game losing streak.

Vargas, who was making his first start in 423 days after having Tommy John surgery on August 5, 2015, gave up a first-inning run on Melky Cabrera's RBI single, but retired eight of the last nine batters he faced.

Astros 2, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Yuli Gurriel hit a two-run single and Mike Fiers pitched six scoreless innings to lead Houston over Seattle.

Fiers gave up singles to the first two batters he faced, but allowed only one more hit. It was the third time Fiers didn't allow a run in 27 starts this season, and the three hits allowed also equaled his season best.

Pirates 10, Reds 4 Pirates 7, Reds 3

In Cincinnati, Sean Rodriguez homered in both games as Pittsburgh swept a doubleheader.

In the first game, Jameson Taillon (4-4) pitched five innings and singled to drive in a big league run for the first time. Anthony DeSclafani (8-4) took the loss.

Andrew McCutchen drove in three runs in the opener and had a bases-loaded single in the second game off Brandon Finnegan (9-11).

waukee routed the NL Central champions.

Chicago manager Joe Maddon used a starting lineup of mostly reserves after the Cubs celebrated winning the division, a title they clinched late on Thursday night.

Jake Arrieta (17-7), the 2015 NL Cy Young Award winner, gave up four runs.

Rays 5, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Evan Longoria homered, tripled and scored three runs to help Tampa Bay blunt Baltimore's playoff push.

The loss dropped Baltimore three games behind first-place Boston in the AL East. The Orioles remained tied with Toronto for the top AL wild-card slot after the Blue Jays' loss to the Los Angeles Angels.

The Orioles have lost two of three to the last-place Rays in a series that ends Sunday.

Angels 6, Blue Jays 1

In Anaheim, Albert Pujols hit his 590th career home run and Los Angeles dropped Toronto into a tie for the top two AL wild-card spots.

The Blue Jays and Baltimore are even in the playoff race. Seattle, Detroit and Houston are all three games behind in the wild-card chase.

Pujols hit his 30th homer. He joined Hank Aaron, Barry Bonds and Alex Rodriguez as the only players to reach 30 home runs in at least 14 seasons.

Rockies 8, Padres 0

In Denver, Jon Gray struck out a franchise-record 16 and pitched a four-hitter to lead

Colorado.

Gray (10-8) threw 113 pitches in surpassing Darryl Kile's 14-strikeout performance in 1998.

Tom Murphy homered twice and had five RBI for the Rockies. Nolan Arenado added his NL-leading 38th home run of the season.

Dodgers 6, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, rookie Brock Stewart pitched five effective innings and the Dodgers bullpen took over from there.

Los Angeles now leads the NL West by five games over the Giants.

Joc Pederson hit a two-run homer, his seventh in 13 games against Arizona this season. He connected off Shelby Miller (2-12).

Athletics 11, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Joey Wendle led off the game with his first major league homer, Marcus Semien also went deep against Yu Darvish and Oakland beat AL-best Texas.

Darvish (5-5) matched a career high by allowing seven runs while pitching only five innings. He struck out eight, but walked four batters -- all of those runners scored.

Braves 7, Nationals 3

In Atlanta, Nick Markakis and Anthony Recker each drove in two runs, Josh Collmenter won as an emergency starter and Atlanta beat Washington.

The Nationals have a magic number of six for clinching the NL East.

Collmenter (2-0), acquired Wednesday from the Chicago

Cubs, struck out eight in five innings and allowed two runs.

Phillies 8, Marlins 0

In Philadelphia, Jeremy Hellickson pitched a three-hitter and A.J. Ellis had a three-run double to lead the Phillies over fading Miami.

Miami fell six games back for the NL's second wild card. The Marlins by seven runs in the second inning and lost for

the 14th time in 20 games.

Hellickson (12-9) struck out five, walked none and hit two batters in his second big league shutout.

Royals 3, White Sox 2

In Kansas City, Jarrod Dyson had two hits, scored a run and stole a base in Jason Vargas' first start in 14 months, and Kansas City beat Chicago to snap a five-

Sutherland leads at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Kevin Sutherland birdied four his last six holes at Pebble Beach for a 4-under 68 and the second-round lead Saturday in the PGA Tour Champions' Nature Valley First Tee Open.

The 52-year-old Sutherland had an 8-under 135 total for a one-stroke lead over Paul Broadhurst, the Englishman who won the Senior British Open at Carnoustie in July.

From Sacramento, Sutherland is winless on the 50-and-over tour after winning once on the PGA Tour. In 2014, he set the senior tour record with a 13-under 59 in the Dick's Sporting Goods Open.

"This is always a special place to me," Sutherland said. "Being a northern California guy, Pebble is the mecca of golf for northern California golfers. The whole Carmel/Monterey area is always a special place, so to win any tournament here is quite an accomplishment and will definitely feel great."

Broadhurst followed his opening 66 with a 70 at Pop-

py Hills.

"Really enjoy the course," Broadhurst said. "Played it on Wednesday with Bernhard Langer in practice and really, really enjoy the course. Played a lot harder today. It was pretty calm on Wednesday. Today, it's quite a bit of wind out there, so makes it tricky."

Some players were unable to finish before dark. France's Jean Van de Velde was the top player still on the course at 3 under with two holes left.

Playing in the morning, Sutherland began his run on the par-4 fourth and also birdied the par-5 sixth, par-3 seventh and par-4 ninth. He played his opening nine in even par with two birdies and two bogeys.

"If you can get Pebble early, it's always great," Sutherland said. "Even on a good day it's always nice to get Pebble early because the greens are a little softer and a little bit fresher as far as not as many spike marks

and stuff. Anytime, you can get out there early at Pebble it's great.

The professionals are playing alongside boys and girls from The First Tee programs throughout the country. Sutherland is teaming with Jonathan Tanihana, also from Sacramento.

"I enjoyed playing with Jonathan tremendously," Sutherland said. "He's a fine young man and he's got a tremendous golf game. And today we made a bunch much birdies."

Woody Austin and Greg Kraft were tied for third at 5 under. Austin had a 69 at Poppy Hills, and Kraft shot 68 at Pebble Beach.

Langer was 4 under after a 69 at Pebble Beach. The 59-year-old German star leads the tour with four victories this season.

Vijay Singh was even par after a 68 at Poppy Hills.

John Daly was 5 over after his second 74, this one at Poppy Hills.



Infantino fighting resistance to overhaul FIFA

ZURICH (AP)—Sepp Blatter has been expelled from FIFA but not eradicated from its headquarters.

A swift left turn after entering FIFA's slate-walled lobby in Zurich still takes visitors to the place where football's disgraced self-styled "godfather" is forever president. A plaque of infamy commemorates the FIFA leadership on the day their gleaming global base opened in 2007. Now it provides a snapshot of a sullied era in soccer governance, with six of seven vice presidents serving under Blatter on that May day since implicated in wrongdoing or banned outright from the sport.

FIFA is still trying to shake off the toxic legacy of Blatter, whose 17-year presidency was abruptly halted last October as the extent of his financial misdemeanors started to unravel.

The first seven months of Gianni Infantino's presidency have seen the charge sheet against his predecessor grow even as the new leader embarks on a mission to clean up the organization and rebuild trust.

And yet Infantino shuffles in his seat when Blatter's name is raised during an Associated Press interview, seemingly reticent to join the chorus of those condemning the man revered for so long by soccer leaders globally.

"That's not my job to do that," Infantino responded when asked to assess how damaging Blatter was to FIFA. "There is an ethics committee looking at this."

Asked whether the 80-year-old Blatter should face jail, Infantino responded: "I don't want to comment on the past. The facts speak for themselves."



Already serving a six-year ban for authorizing an improper payment of 2 million Swiss francs to Michel Platini (one of those now discredited former vice presidents), Blatter is

under further investigation for bribery and corruption by the FIFA ethics mechanisms he created. He is also a suspect in a Swiss criminal case but denies wrongdoing.

FIFA's own lawyers said in June that Blatter and two colleagues gained improperly through annual salary increases, World Cup bonuses and other incentives exceeding 79 million Swiss francs over five years.

Infantino, a Swiss-Italian law graduate, is more guarded than FIFA's own lawyers, withholding a verdict on Blatter until a forensic and financial audit is complete.

"There will be conclusions of this audit on what went wrong and why things went wrong and on what we have to do to improve things here

AP
FIFA President Gianni Infantino speaks during an interview on the occasion of the "World Summit on Ethics and Leadership in Sports" at the Home of FIFA in Zurich, Switzerland, Friday, Sept. 16, 2016.

in the future," Infantino said during an exclusive 30-minute interview—held in a subterranean lounge at FIFA's Swiss fortress-like HQ where his finger print was required for entry.

"What concerns the past, there are people are dealing with. I have to make sure in the future wrongdoing doesn't happen anymore in FIFA and around FIFA."

That isn't easy when Infantino in February inherited a workforce inevitably packed with Blatter loyalists, staff resistant to change or those still disgruntled at being cut out of the decision-making process. Some executives were dismissed as Infantino cleared out the old guard.

"When you have to embrace such significant reforms, it's obviously normal you get some blowback and turbulence," Infantino said. "The worst for a human being is to change his habits. It's obvious some people were not happy but we have to move on."

Dynamo stuns Real Salt Lake, snaps 3-game skid

SANDY, Utah (AP)—Alex scored off a defensive miscue in the first half and the Houston Dynamo held on for a 1-0 victory over Real Salt Lake on Saturday night, handing the Utah club its first home loss of the season.

Real Salt Lake (12-10-8) midfielder John Stertzer turned it over deep in his own end as a result of Ricardo Clark's pressure. Alex pounced on the loose ball and free path at goal, slotting a toe punch past goalkeeper Nick Rimando in the 36th minute.

RSL have gone winless in its last three and dropped to 8-1-6 at home in 2016.

The Dynamo (6-11-11) ended a three-game winless streak and moved out of last place in the overall standings. Houston is 10 points below the Western Conference red line with five games left.

Timbers 2, Union 1

In Portland, Diego Valeri and Fanendo Adi scored second-half goals to give the Portland

Timbers a victory over the Philadelphia Union on Saturday.

The victory gave Portland (11-11-8) 41 points and moved it ahead of Sporting Kansas City for fifth place in the Western Conference. The loss kept Philadelphia (11-11-8) at 41 points. The Union are fourth in the Eastern Conference.

Crew 4, Orlando City 1

In Orlando, Ola Kamara had two goals and an assist and Columbus beat Orlando City to end a two-game losing streak.

The Crew (6-11-11) opened the scoring in the sixth minute when Justin Meram's pass from the midfield circle split the Orlando City defense. Kamara took it first and laid it off to Ethan Finlay for the open-net finish.

Revolution 3, Impact 1

In Montreal, Kai Kamara scored in the first minute and

Kelyn Rowe added two goals to help New England beat Montreal.

The Revolution (9-12-9), who lost to Dallas in the U.S. Open Cup final this week, posted a third straight win in Major League Soccer play with only their second road victory of the season. New England moved two points behind fifth-place Montreal in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

New York City FC 2, FC Dallas 2

In New York, Khiry Shelton finished Jack Harrison's diagonal cross with a header in the 78th minute and New York City FC tied MLS-leading FC Dallas.

Michael Barrios scored his ninth goal of the season in the 52nd minute to give FC Dallas (15-8-7) a 2-1 lead. Maximiliano Urruti slotted one into the top netting from a narrow angle to make it 1-all in the 20th. Mauro Rosales assisted both FC Dallas goals.



NAPU

From Page 28

believes all the participating teams have chances to win in the Micro Cup.

"Each club puts in the effort to perform at maximum potential and any club has a chance to win at any given time," the Napu head added.

The Jason Tarkong-coached Napu junior paddling teams are entered in the 500m, 1,500m, and long distance events and they have been training for several months to prepare for the competition.

"Napu Outrigger Club Junior paddlers practice four

times a week or every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. MWF start time is by 430pm, while the adults head in at 5:15pm. Saturday starts time is around 8am and training schedule per day does vary. There are times we may deviate from the norm depending on the weather," Rasa said.

The club head added that they are still finalizing the rosters for the two teams, but each squad will be composed of seven paddlers. Napu teams are hoping to leave Saipan on Oct. 19 to have time to practice at the venue. They are also doing several fundraisers, including coin

drives and cars wash.

"We would like to thank the following individuals and groups for their support and generosity: Ray Yumul, True Value Hardware, Best Sunshine International, Triple B Forwarders, McDonalds of Saipan, Saipan Shipping Company, TSL Foundation, and Pacific Islands Club Saipan," Rasa said.

Yumul and their family's company True Value donated cleaning materials that Napu used for its car wash fundraiser last Saturday at the Shell gas station in Susupe, while other donors turned in cash and in-kind donations.

Sounders 1, Whitecaps 0

In Seattle, Jordan Morris scored in the 81st minute and Seattle beat Vancouver to keep its playoff hopes alive.

The goal was the rookie forward's team-leading 10th.

Seattle (10-13-5) won for the first time since Aug. 21 and snapped a three-game winless streak. Stefan Frei had his sixth shutout of the season.

Earthquakes 0, Rapids 0

In Commerce City, Colorado's Tim Howard made a highlight save in the first half, San Jose's David Bingham added his own after the break and the Rapids and Earthquakes played to the scoreless draw.

The Rapids (12-5-11) stayed undefeated at home and moved into second place in the overall standings, tied with the Los Angeles Galaxy and five points behind FC Dallas.

PATRIOTS

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by the end of the third period, 67-27. 5-Star Construction then picked up garbage points in the fourth canto to make the 50-plus point mark.

Jack Aranda paced the Patriots with his 20 points, while Sean Rabasto and Gerald Flores added 10 apiece. Six other Patriots players contributed at least 4 points each, while Michael Cabanas led 5-Star Construction with his 20 markers.

In the first match, the Junior Ol'Aces also established an early double-digit lead en route to a 41-point winning margin.

Six different players made

SCHMIDT

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ror in the closing seconds of the tightly fought match. He made up for the meltdown in Game 2, playing steady both on offense and defense to hand the championship to Kanoa.

Kanoa and Schmidt were recognized during the league's awards ceremony last Thursday right after Game 2.

Schmidt received his Finals MVP trophy, while five other players got medals for their notable performances this season.

Named as outstanding players of their respective teams were Pacific Orien-

tal, Inc.'s Ferdie Arago, JP Mambas' Ferdie De La Torre, Lowe Base's Ariel Jinang, and Shirley's Coffee Shop's John Jugos.

For the team awards, Kanoa received the perpetual trophy, while Fiesta and Kanoa claimed the runner-up and third place plums.

Kanoa finished the season with a near perfect record—13-1. The newly crowned champion team swept the 10-game double-round robin elimination and defeated JP Mambas and Fiesta in the first two games in the playoffs before ending its winning streak after the Game 1 loss to Fiesta.

First Game

Junior Ol'Aces 92—Blake 15, Sakisat 15, Sablan 13,

Atalig 12, Tenorio 10, Onopwy 6, Siech 6, Olopai 5, Castro 4, Norita 4, Ketson 2.

Tanapag 51 — J. Lifofoi 15, H. Aguon 10, M. Aguon 6, F. Lifofoi 5, Evangelista 5, Norita 4, Arthur 4, Sunumai 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-3, 41-23, 78-39, 92-51.

Second Game
Patriots 82 — Aranda 20, Rabasto 10, Flores 10, Deleon Guerrero 6, Ito 6, Arciaga 5, Espinosa 4, Fera 4, Cadiang 4, Ruluked 2, Rangamar 2, De Guzman 2.

5-Star 54 — Cabanas 20, De Belen 10, Joe 8, Pineda 8, Jerome 6, Estanislao 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-7, 45-18, 67-27, 82-54.

2016 TanHoldings Inter-Company Basketball League Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Kanoa Resort's Ernest Duenas, left, unloads a layup against Fiesta Resort's Arjay Nonato during the deciding Game 2 of their title duel in the 2016 TanHoldings Inter-Company Basketball League last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Kanoa Resort's Douglas Schmidt goes up for a fadeaway shot against Fiesta's Paul Quizon.



The ball slips from the hands of Fiesta Resort's Adonis Macoto, center, after colliding with Kanoa Resort's Matt Duenas, while the latter's teammate Dindo Pablo, left, provides help defense.



Kanoa Resort's Dindo Pablo, center, slips past the defense of Fiesta Resort's Jarett Matsutaro, right, and Paul Quizon.



Kanoa Resort's Matt Duenas, left, and Fiesta Resort's Tanner Maratita battle for the rebound.



Fiesta Resort's Arjay Nonato tries to keep the ball away from Kanoa Resort's Douglas Schmidt.



Fiesta Resort's Roland Galag, right, saves the ball from going out to the baseline during the third quarter of their game against Kanoa Resort.



Kanoa Resort's Rico Villagomez, second left, is hounded by Fiesta Resort defenders.



Sharper's
Hall nomination
causes national
outcry

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Yankees, extend
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Patriots, Jr. Ol'Aces win debuts

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Games in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League resumed last Friday with the Patriots and Junior Ol'Aces having rousing debuts after pounding their respective foes at the San Antonio court.

The Junior Ol'Aces pummeled Tanapag Sports Association in the curtain-raiser, 91-52, while the Patriots posted a similar easy win against 5-Star Construction



in the second match of the night, 82-54. With their victories, the Junior Ol'Aces and Patriots joined the Ol'Aces and Saipan Apparel on the win column of the league's open division,

which called off its games last Monday and Wednesday due to rain.

The Patriots, who are bannered by Sonics players, led from the opening tip and were never threatened against the depleted 5-Star crew, who had only seven players for their debut game. The highly-skilled and younger Patriots players proved to be too much for 5-Star as the winning squad immediately seized control of the match, taking a 25-7 advantage.

Multiple players scored for the Patriots, leaving 5-Star Construction's defense guessing. With their balance offense, the Patriots' lead ballooned to as high as 40 points

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Schmidt takes Finals MVP honors



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa Resort's Douglas Schmidt, third left, is chased down by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan defenders in a fastbreak play during the third quarter of the deciding Game 2 of their title showdown in the TanHoldings caging last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Douglas "Spider" Schmidt was named Finals MVP in the 2016 TanHoldings Inter-Company Basketball League after towing Kanoa Resort to an emphatic 85-66 win over Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in the deciding Game 2 of their championship duel last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Schmidt scored 24 points in the title-clinching victory, finding his target early in the rubbermatch to set up Kanoa Resort's double-digit win.

His two triples in the first quarter allowed Kanoa to build a 29-17 advantage. Schmidt finished the opening 10 min-

utes of play with 8 points and kept going in the next 10, as he sizzled for 10 markers in the second period. He registered Kanoa's last 7 markers in the first half to extend their lead to 20 at the break, 47-27.

The former Palau National Team member slowed down a bit in the second half, but had already created enough damage in the first to help Kanoa end Fiesta's two-year rule in the league. Schmidt and the rest of Kanoa crew were forced to play Fiesta in Game 2 after the dethroned champion stole Game 1, 91-90.

Schmidt also posted 20-plus production in Game 1 with his 23, but committed a costly er-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Patriots' Gerald Flores, left, stretches for a layup against the defense of 5-Star Construction's Francis Estanislao during the fourth quarter of their game in the MIBF outdoor league last Friday at the San Antonio court.

Napu paddlers to test mettle in Micro Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The youth paddlers of the Napu Outrigger Canoe Club will be put to a test when they compete in next month's Micro Cup 2016

in the waters off Meyuns Ramp in Koror, Palau.

Napu Outrigger Canoe Club president Ponce Rasa, in an email to Saipan Tribune last Thursday, said their group will be send-

ing both their girls and boys junior teams for the first time in the Oct. 21 to 23 tournament to see how the club's young guns will fare against the region's best. Palau, Guam, and the Feder-

ated States of Micronesia are also competing in next month's event and in the past editions of the Micro Cup, Australia, Japan, and Hong Kong also used to send teams to the canoe race contest.

"We want to send our Napu kids down to Palau to expose them to the region's best paddlers in the junior division. They will have the opportunity to measure up themselves against the region's finest," said Rasa, who

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Napu Outrigger Canoe Club members and officials receive cleaning materials from True Value's Ray Yumul, standing right, during a donation turnover ceremony last week in Garapan.